

The Mining Journal,

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE:

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

[The Mining Journal is Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper, and for Transmission Abroad.]

No. 2604.—Vol. LV.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1885.

PRICE SIXPENCE.
BY POST, £1 4s. PER ANNUM.

MR. JAMES H. CROFTS, STOCK AND SHARE BROKER,
AND MINING SHARE DEALER,
No. 1, FINCH LANE, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.
ESTABLISHED 1842.

BUSINESS transacted in all descriptions of MINING STOCKS and SHARES (British and Foreign), Consols, Bonds (Foreign and Colonial), Railways, Insurance, Assurance, Telegraph, Tramway, Shipping, Canal, Gas, Water, and Dock Shares, and all Miscellaneous Shares.

BUSINESS negotiated in STOCKS and SHARES not having a general market value.

Every week a GENERAL and RELIABLE LIST issued (a copy of which will be forwarded on application), containing closing prices.

MINES INSPECTED.
BANKERS: CITY BANK, LONDON—SOUTH CORNWALL BANK, St. Austell.
TELEPHONE NUMBER 1003.

SPECIAL DEALINGS in the following (or part):—
150 Asia Minor, 3s.
50 Akankoo, f. pd., 3s.
100 Almada, 2s.
150 Bedford United, 14s.
100 Balkis, 1s.
50 Bratsberg, 17s.
150 Cankim Bamoo, 1s.
50 Carn Camborne, 3s.
100 Callao Bis, 7s.
50 Cartago, f. pd., 3s.
50 Colom. Hyd., 11s.
10 Cape Copper, £29.
50 California, 3s.
25 Colorado, £2 2s. 6d.
100 Canada Copper, 3s.
50 Chontales, 2s. 3d.
75 Cor. South Australian Copper, 6d.
50 Craven Moor Un., 11s.
25 De Beer's, 1s.
100 Denver, 1s.
60 Devala Moyar, 3s. 9d.
20 Devon Con., £2 15s.
15 Devon Friend, 6d.
15 Dolcoath, £7 2s.
100 Don Pedro, 2s. 9d.
50 Drakewalls, 3s. 6d.
50 East Blue Hills, 35s.
100 Eberhardt, 4s. 9d.
20 East Lovell, 1s.
70 East Wh. Rose, 3s. 3d.
30 Ecton, 21s. 3d.
10 El Callao, £35.
80 Frontino, 13s.
50 Goginash, 1s. 3d.
80 Gold Coast, 1s. 3d.
100 Glenrock, 3s. 6d.
10 Great Holway, 2s.
20 Great Laxey, 2s.
25 Gunnis (Chit.), 6s.
75 Hoover Hill, 7s. 6d.
50 Home Mines Ltd, 15s.
75 Indian Consolidated, 3s. 9d.
100 Javali, 2s. 6d.
100 Kapanga, 3d.
20 Killfret, 13s.
25 Kim. North Block, 1s.
100 Kohinoor B, 2s. 3d.
25 La Trinidad, 4s.
15 Leadhills, 1s.
150 Lisbon-Berlyn, 1s. 9d.
25 Marke Valley, 3s. 6d.
15 Mason & Barry, 4s.
20 Montana, 39s.
250 Mounts Bay, 1s. 3d.
50 Myaore Gold, 32s.
80 New Chile, 17s. paid, 3s. 3d.
100 Nacupai, 1s. 3d.
75 New Caradon, 1s. 3d.
100 New Callao, 2s. 9d.
90 New Emma, 10s.
25 New Kitty, 14s.
150 Nouveau Monde, 1s. 3
50 New W. Caradon, 3s. 6
20 Nundydoo, 9s. 6d.
50 Nine Reefs, 2s. 9d.
150 Old Shepherds, 3s. 3
50 Oregum, 2s. 3d.
50 Organos, 5s. 6d.
50 Orita, 20s.
100 Oscar, 11s.
100 Oscar Vendors, fully paid, 5s. 6d.
Penegarreg, 22s. 6d.
25 Polberro, £2.
80 Potosi (New), 4s. 3d.
70 Port Phillip, 2s.
20 Phoenix United, 50
50 Panulicillo, £2 1/2
50 Prince of Wales, 50
100 Pestarens, 1s.
10 Rio Tinto, £10 12s.
70 Ruby (New), 3s.
20 Richmond, £3 3s. 9d.
20 Roman Gravel, 1s.
20 Schwab's Gully, £35 3
50 South Caradon, 5s. 3
10 South Condurrow, £7 12s. 6d.
20 South Darren, 6s. 3d.
25 South Penstruthal, 1/2
100 Tacquah, 1s. 3d.
120 Tambracherry, 3s. 9d.
20 Tollma A.
10 ditto B, £2 12s. 6d.
120 Transvaal Gold, 2s.
50 Tregoutrees, 3s.
50 Treavean, 2s. 6d.
20 Trevaunance, 3s.
50 Utd. Mexican, £3 3 9
70 Van.
40 Victoria Gold, 3s.
100 Wassau Gold, 12s.
100 West Basset, £2 1/2
100 Wheel Agar, £19.
30 Wheel Basset, £8 13 9
50 West Callao, 2s.
50 West Phoenix, 1s.
35 West Caradon, 1s. 9d.
50 West Polberro, 13s. 6
100 West Kitty, £7 15s.
80 Wheel Coates, 2s.
20 Wheel Crebore, 25s.
20 Wheel Kitty, 14s.
80 Wynand Percey, 1s.

* BUSINESS at CLOSE PRICES in all marketable TIN, COPPER, LEAD, GOLD, SILVER, and DIAMOND SHARES.

* SHARES SOLD for the USUAL FORTNIGHTLY SETTLEMENT.

* SHARES SOLD at SPECIAL PRICES FOR FORWARD DELIVERY (ONE, TWO, or THREE MONTHS) ON DEPOSIT OF TWENTY PER CENT.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

HOME RAILWAYS.—SPECIAL BUSINESS.—Fortnightly accounts opened on receipt of the usual cover.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

FOREIGN BONDS.—FORTNIGHTLY ACCOUNTS OPENED ON RECEIPT OF THE USUAL COVER.

ARGENTINE. PERU.
EGYPTIAN UNIFIED. RUSSIAN.
ITALIAN. SPANISH.
MEXICAN. TURKISH.
PORTUGUESE. URUGUAY.

* SPECIAL BUSINESS in the above Stocks.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

AMERICAN, CANADIAN, AND FOREIGN RAILS.—SPECIAL BUSINESS. Fortnightly accounts opened on receipt of the usual cover.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

BANK, OMNIBUS, TRAMWAY, GAS, WATER, and CANAL SHARES.

BUSINESS in all the above, and fortnightly accounts opened.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES of all DESCRIPTIONS BOUGHT or SOLD. SPECIAL BUSINESS in:—

AQUARIUM. IRON and COAL.
HOTEL. ELECTRIC LIGHT.
And other COMMERCIAL or INDUSTRIAL SHARES.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

OPTIONS in all STOCKS and SHARES dealt in.—

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

DIAMOND SHARES OF SOUTH AFRICA.—

ADAMANT DIAMOND. FRENCH DIAMOND.
ANGLO AFRICAN. KIMBERLEY CENTRAL.
DE BEER'S. KIMBERLEY NORTH BLOCK.
FRENCH AND D'ESTERRE. PHENIX DIAMOND.
DIAMOND. SCHWAB'S GULLY.

BUSINESS in the ABOVE at CLOSE MARKET PRICES for USUAL FORTNIGHTLY SETTLEMENT.

SHARES SOLD for FORWARD DELIVERY (ONE, TWO, or THREE MONTHS) ON DEPOSIT OF TWENTY PER CENT.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

SCHWAB'S GULLY DIAMOND SHARES.—

DE BEER'S DIAMOND SHARES.

SPECIAL BUSINESS in the above, either for CURRENT SETTLEMENT or for FORWARD DELIVERY (one, two, or three months), on DEPOSIT OF TWENTY PER CENT.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

EL CALLAO MINE (Venezuela), paying regular MONTHLY DIVIDENDS, and at present market quotations yielding about 18 per cent. per annum. SPECIAL BUSINESS in these Shares.

JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

GOLD AND SILVER MINES.—INDIAN, NORTH AMERICAN, SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AFRICAN, SOUTH AFRICAN, and MEXICAN Mining Shares.

BUSINESS as BUYER or SELLER in all the above.

Shares sold for Fortnightly Account.

Shares sold for Forward Delivery (one, two, or three months) on deposit of twenty per cent.

JAMES H. CROFTS, STOCK AND SHARE BROKER, AND MINING SHARE DEALER, No. 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON, E.C. ESTABLISHED 1842.

LONDON BANKERS.—THE CITY BANK.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MINING OFFICES.

Messrs. PETER WATSON AND CO., 13, AUSTIN FRIARS, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BANKERS: THE ALLIANCE BANK (Limited).

Messrs. PETER WATSON AND CO.'S

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MONTHLY MINING NEWS—STOCK AND SHARE INVESTMENT NOTES—MINES, MINERALS, AND METAL MARKETS—SHARE LIST, No. 875, Vol. XVII., for JULY month, is ready, and will be sent to customers on application.

Annual Subscription..... 5s. | Single Copy..... 6d.

MR. ALFRED E. COOKE, STOCK AND SHARE DEALER, 3, GEORGE YARD, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

(NEARLY 19 YEARS IN OLD BROAD STREET.)

TELEPHONE No. 10,338.

Mr. ALFRED E. COOKE can SELL the following shares, or any smaller marketable number at prices affixed FREE OF COMMISSION:—

120 Balkis, 1s.
10 Bratsberg, 17s. 6d.
30 Callao Bis, 6s. 9d.
40 Chile Gold, 3s.
10 Colombian Hyd., 10s. 6
80 California Gold, 3s.
50 Cartago, f. pd., 3s. 3d.
20 Colorado, 1s.
15 East Blue Hills, 35s.
50 East Wh. Rose, 3s.
20 Frontino, 13s.
100 Indian Consol., 3s. 6
30 La Plata (New), 5s.
50 Leadhills, 1s.
50 Lisbon-Berlyn, 1s. 6d.
100 Mounts Bay, 1s. 3d.
50 Myaore Gold, 32s.
100 New Callao, 2s.
10 New Kitty, 17s. 6d.
100 Nouveau Monde, 1s.
50 Nundydoo, 9s. 6d.
50 Old Shepherds, 3s.
50 Organos, 5s.
50 Orita, 20s.
60 Oscar, vendors, 6s. 6d.
50 Oscar, fully pd., 10s. 6
60 Potosi, 5s.
50 Prince of Wales, 50
40 Prince Royal, 4s.
40 Ruby, 5s.
5 Schwab's Gully, 1s.
5 Tollma A.
40 Treavean, 3s. 6d.
10 United Mexican, £3 1/2
40 Victoria Gold, 3s.
25 Van.
200 West Callao, 2s.
5 West Kitty, 14s.
20 Wheel Crebore, 21s.
40 Wheel Metal.

MANY of the ABOVE SHARES can be supplied for END of AUGUST account on cash DEPOSIT of TEN PER CENT.

CONSOLES.

RUSSIAN BONDS.

AMERICAN STOCKS.

RAILWAY STOCKS.

BUSINESS TRANSACTED at CLOSEST CURRENT PRICES, FREE OF COMMISSION, in all STOCK EXCHANGE SECURITIES either for SPECULATION or INVESTMENT.

ALFRED E. COOKE, 3, GEORGE YARD, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

BANKERS: ROYAL EXCHANGE (Limited), London.

MR. JAMES STOCKER, STOCKBROKER, 2, CROWN COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Has Special Business in the following for cash or settlement by arrangement free of commission:—

70 Almada, 2s.
40 Akankoo, 2s. 9d.
100 Balkis, 1s.
50 Bratsberg, 17s.
50 Cartago, 2s. 3d.
100 California, 3s.
100 Callao Bis, 6s.
45 Carn Camborne, 2s. 9
75 Chile Gold, 3s.
100 Chontales, 2s. 3d.
50 Colorado, 1s.
70 Devala, 3s. 6d.
100 Denver, 1s.
30 El Callao, £35 1/2
50 Frontino, 13s.
50 Goginash, 1s. 3d.
80 Gold Coast, 1s. 3d.
100 Glenrock, 3s. 6d.
10 Great Holway, 2s.
20 Great Laxey, 2s.
25 Gunnis (Chit.), 6s.
90 Glenrock, 3s. 3d.
40 Great Holway, 2s.
30 Great Laxey, £10 1/2
60 Home Mines, 15s.
60 Hoover Hill, 7s. 6d.
100 Indian Consol., 3s. 6d.
40 Killfret, 13s. 3d.
50 Kohinoor, 2s.
50 La Plata, 4s. 6d.
30 Leadhills, 1s.
80 Lisbon-Berlyn, 1s. 6d.
30 La Trinidad, £3 1/2
40 Montana, 39s.
60 Mounts Bay, 1s. 3d.
50 Myaore Gold, 32s.
65 New Callao, 2s. 9d.
75 Nouveau Monde, 1s.
60 Nundydoo, 9s.
60 New Emma, 10s.
70 Old Shepherds, 3s.
80 Orita, 20s.
150 Colombian, 1s.
50 Nundydoo, 9s.
40 Bratsberg, 17s.
100 Frontino, 13s.
80 Prince of Wales, 50
35 Oscar Gold, 10s.
40 Panulicillo, 45s. 9d.
80 Potosi (New), 4s. 6d.
45 Polberro, 40s.
50 Prince of Wales, £5 6
30 Richmond, £3 1/2
70 Ruby, 4s. 6d.
30 Rio Tinto, £10 1/2
70 Silver Queen, 1s.
80 Transvaal Gold, 1s. 9d
20 Tollma A, £4 1/2
40 Tollma B, £2 11s. 6d.
30 Trevaunance, 3s.
25 Utd. Mexican, £3 2s.
40 Van, 31s.
50 Victoria Gold, 3s.
30 Wheel Crebore, 21s.

THE FOLLOWING SHARES WANTED FOR CASH:—

75 Montana, 150 Colombian, 50 Nundydoo, 40 Bratsberg, 100 Frontino, 80 Prince of Wales, 35 Oscar Gold, 40 Panulicillo, 80 Potosi (New), 45 Polberro, 50 Prince of Wales, 30 Richmond, 70 Ruby, 30 Rio Tinto, 70 Silver Queen, 80 Transvaal Gold, 20 Tollma A, 40 Tollma B, 30 Trevaunance, 25 Utd. Mexican, 40 Van, 50 Victoria Gold, 30 Wheel Crebore, 21s.

Railways, Foreign Bonds, Gold and Silver Mines, Miscellaneous Shares, and all Stock Exchange Securities.

ESTABLISHED 1851.

BANKERS: LONDON AND WESTMINSTER.

JOHN B. REYNOLDS, STOCK AND SHARE DEALER, 37, WALBROOK, LONDON, E.C.

Business transacted at net prices, and for cash in all classes of stocks and shares.

SPECIALITY.

Cornish Mines, excepting those worked on the Limited Liability principle. A favourable selection of mines for speculation can now be made.

Reliable information can be obtained concerning the Saint Agnes Mines—worked upon the "No Credit" principle—especially Polberro, Trevaunance, and West Polberro.

CHARLES J. SIMS, STOCK AND SHARE DEALER, 2, UNION COURT, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BEAZLEY AND CO., STOCK AND SHARE DEALERS, 6 AND 7, COLEMAN STREET, LONDON, E.C. ESTABLISHED 28 YEARS.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MINE SHARES not quoted below BOUGHT and SOLD at CLOSE MARKET PRICES.

ALL BUSINESS DONE at NET PRICES FOR CASH, ACCOUNT, OR FORWARD DELIVERY.

SELLERS and BUYERS should send FIRM ORDERS at once.

CLOSING PRICES, FRIDAY, 17TH JULY, 4 P.M.

Buyers. Sellers. Buyers. Sellers.

Almada, £0 1 0 .. £0 2 0 .. Montana, £1 15 0 .. £2 0 0 ..

Bratsberg, 0 15 0 .. 0 17 6 .. Nundydoo, 0 8 6 .. 0 9 0 ..

Balkis, 0 0 6 .. 0 1 0 .. Nouveau Monde, 0 1 0 .. 0 2 0 ..

Callao Bis, 0 5 0 .. 0 7 0 .. New Potosi, 0 4 6 .. 0 5 6 ..

California, 0 2 6 .. 1 3 3 .. New Chile, 0 2 6 .. 0 3 0 ..

Colombian, 0 9 8 .. 0 10 6 .. New Callao, 0 2 0 .. 0 3 3 ..

Colorado, 2 5 0 .. 2 10 0 .. Oscar, vendors, 0 5 0 .. 0 7 0 ..

Cartago, f. pd., 0 2 6 .. 0 3 6 .. Oscar, fully paid, 0 9 0 .. 0 11 0 ..

East Wh. Rose, 0 2 6 .. 0 3 6 .. Orita, 0 18 6 .. 0 19 0 ..

Eberhardt, 0 3 3 .. 0 4 0 .. Organos, 0 5 6 .. 0 7 0 ..

East Blue Hills, 1 12 6 .. 1 15 0 .. Oregum, 0 1 9 .. 0 2 6 ..

Frontino, 0 11 3 .. 0 13 9 .. Prince of Wales, 0 7 6 .. 0 8 6 ..

Killfret, 0 11 0 .. 0 13 0 .. Prince Royal, 0 3 0 .. 0 4 0 ..

Home M. Trust, 0 12 9 .. 0 14 0 .. Ruby, 0 3 3 .. 0 5 0 ..

Hoover Hill, 0 6 0 .. 0 7 6 .. Schwab's Gully, 3 0 0 .. 3 3 6 ..

Indian Consol., 0 3 0 .. 0 3 6 .. Utd. Mexican, 3 0 0 .. 3 2 6 ..

Lisbon Berlyn, 0 1 3 .. 0 1 0 .. Van, 1 9 0 .. 1 11 0 ..

La Trinidad, 3 10 0 .. 4 0 0 .. West Callao, 0 0 0 .. 0 2 0 ..

Leadhills, 2 0 0 .. 2 5 0 .. Wheel Crebore, 0 18 0 .. 1 0 0 ..

Myaore, 1 7 8 .. 1 10 0 .. Wheel Metal, 0 17 6 .. 0 19 0 ..

INVESTORS should send for BEAZLEY and CO.'S LIST of CLOSEST PRICES, which will be forwarded on receipt of STAMPED DIRECTED ENVELOPE.

CASH PURCHASES.—SPECIAL FACILITIES for IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENT and DELIVERY OF SHARES.

Shares supplied for FORWARD DELIVERY on BEST POSSIBLE TERMS.

BEAZLEY AND CO., 6 AND 7, COLEMAN STREET, LONDON, E.C.

METALS—FRIDAY, 4 P.M.—TIN, £94 10s. 0d. to £95 0s. 0d.;

COPPER, £44 to £44 7s. 6d.; IRON: Market closed.

BEAZLEY AND CO., 6 AND 7, COLEMAN STREET, LONDON, E.C.

MR. WILLIAM H. BUMPUS, STOCK BROKER

AND MINING SHARE DEALER, 44, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

[Established at this Address in 1867.]

BUSINESS transacted in ALL STOCK EXCHANGE SECURITIES, MINING and MISCELLANEOUS SHARES of every description. An INVESTMENT LIST free on application.

SPECIAL BUSINESS in the undermentioned:—

150 Almada, 2s.
50 Akankoo, 5s.
100 Bratsberg, 17s. 6d.
500 Balkis, 1s.
150 Callao Bis, 6s. 6d.
150 California, 3s.
75 Colombian, 11s.
5 Cape Copper, £27 1/2
25 Coplapo, 45s.
200 Chontales, 2s. 9d.
50 De Beer's, 1s.
100 Denver, 9d.
20 Devon Consols £2 1/2
3 Dolcoath, 1s.
50 East Blue Hills, 35s.
150 Eberhardt, 5s.
150 East Wh. Rose, 3s. 6d.
3 East Pool, 1s.
50 Frontino, 13s. 6d.
200 Glenrock, 3s. 6d.
30 Great Holway, 2s.
100 Hoover Hill, 7s.
150 Indian Cons., 3s. 6d.
40 Killfret, 13s.
120 Kohinoor B, 2s. 3d.
250 La Plata, 4s. 9d.
30 Leadhills, 1s.
100 Lisbon-Berlyn, 1s. 6d.
100 Montana, 39s.
150 Mounts Bay, 1s. 9d.
20 Mason & Barry, £29.
100 Myaore, 28s. 6d.
300 Nacupai, 1s. 3d.
150 Nouveau Monde, 1s. 3
50 New Emma, 5s. 6d.
100 New Potosi, 4s. 6d.
100 New Ruby, 5s.
200 New Chile, 3s.
70 Oscar, 11s. 3d.
100 Organos, 5s.
25 Panulicillo, 45s.
100 Prince of Wales, 50
50 Richmond, £3 1/2
10 Rio Tinto, £10 1/2
15 So. Condurrow, 1s.
100 South Caradon, 5s. 6d.
50 Schwab's Gully, 1s.
30 Trevaunance, £1 17s. 6
15 Utd. Mexican, £3 1/2
40 Van, 31s. 3d.
10 Wh. Grenville, £10 1/2
50 W. Godolphin, 22s.

Where prices are not inserted offers may be made.

WHEEL GRENVILLE and WEST GODOLPHIN shares recommended.

Mr. BUMPUS devotes SPECIAL ATTENTION to LEGITIMATE MINES, and is in a position to afford reliable information and advice to intending investors, and others in the selection of Shares either for INVESTMENT or SPECULATION. Correspondence invited.

ESTABLISHED 1867.

MR. CHARLES THOMAS, MINING AGENT AND ENGINEER, 3, GREAT ST. HELEN'S, LONDON, E.C.

MR. ALFRED THOMAS, MINING AGENT AND STOCK AND SHARE DEALER, 10, COLEMAN STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JUST PUBLISHED. Entirely re-written, post free, One Shilling.

SPARE CASH: WHAT SHALL I DO WITH IT? A work for the guidance of Investors.—Published by ALFRED THOMAS, M.E., 10, Coleman-street, London, E.C.

"Invaluable to those who cannot attend the markets."

ESTABLISHED 1852.

MR. HENRY J. TALLENTIRE, STOCK BROKER AND MINING SHARE DEALER.

SPECIAL DEALINGS in all BRITISH and FOREIGN Mine Shares.

CONSIDERABLE ADVANCE in the PRICE OF LEAD.—SHARES in ROMAN GRVELS, LEADHILLS, GREAT HOLWAY, CRAVEN MOOR UNITED, SOUTH DARREN, WEARDALE, and other PROMISING MINES should be SECURED for a FURTHER ADVANCE. SPECIAL INFORMATION and CLOSE PRICES upon application.

OFFICES.—21, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BANKERS: CITY BANK, Threadneedle-street, E.C.

MR. J. GRANT MACLEAN, SHAREBROKER AND IRONBROKER, STERLING, N.B.

Refers to his Share Market Report on page 804 of to-day's Journal.

THE COMING RAILWAY DIVIDENDS:

CONSIDERABLE REDUCTIONS PROBABLE.

PARTICULARS of a SAFE 5 PER CENT. INVESTMENT.

RAILWAY DEBENTURE STOCK AND MORTGAGE CORPORATION (LIMITED).

During our many years' advocacy of Trust and similar institutions as safe and profitable means of investment, we are convinced that none who have followed our advice have had cause for regret.

The dividends earned and paid by our selections have been most satisfactory, and their position, so far as regards stability and soundness, beyond dispute.

The principles which guide us are such that it is almost impossible to make a mistake.

In Circular 444, we informed our clients that the shares of the above Corporation were worth attention on account of the half-yearly dividend being about due, and also on account of their low price. The dividend is at the usual substantial and old-fashioned rate of 5 per cent., which in these times is a rate difficult to obtain on good sound securities, but from the nature of the securities operated in by this Corporation, we knew this to be perfectly practicable.

From the accounts we find that from profits and dividends on the invested funds of the Corporation no less than £6200 have been realised and received, and the valuation of the securities held by the Corporation is £3050 over the entire amount of the subscribed capital.

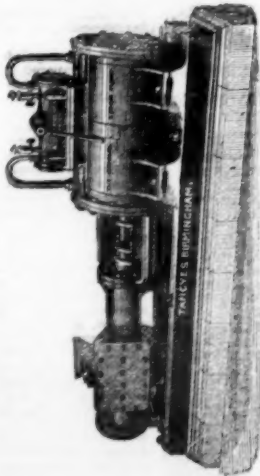
TANGYES LIMITED, BIRMINGHAM.

LONDON: 35, Queen Victoria Street. NEWCASTLE: St. Nicholas Buildings. MANCHESTER: Deansgate. GLASGOW: Argyle and Hope Streets. (No. 7.)

THE "SPECIAL" STEAM PUMP.

Cameron and Floyd's Patents.
TANGYES LIMITED SOLE MAKERS.

For lifts up to 540 ft.



This arrangement known as the "Spherical Valve-box Type" is specially suited for Collieries and Mines.

Numbers of these Pumps are working under heads of 500 ft. in the Coal Mines of Great Britain and the Continent.

In cases where it is necessary to dispose of Exhaust Steam without conveying it through pipes, the Horizontal Air-Pump Condenser, shown in combination with this Pump in the next engraving, is recommended, and forms a highly economical arrangement.

The "Special" Steam Pump can be worked by compressed air.

60

THE "SPECIAL" STEAM PUMP.

For lifts up to 540 ft.

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	7	8	9	10	12	14	16
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	3	4	5	6	8	10	12
Length Stroke	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
Galls. per hour, approx.	1500	1800	2200	2700	3300	4000	4800
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	1 1/2	1 3/4	2	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4	3
" Exhaust Outlet .. in.	1 1/2	1 3/4	2	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4	3
Price	40	50	60	75	90	110	130

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Length Stroke	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Galls. per hour, approx.	7200	9600	12000	14400	16800	19200	21600
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	2 1/2	3	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2
" Exhaust Outlet .. in.	2 1/2	3	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2
Price	140	180	220	270	320	370	420

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
Length Stroke	30	36	42	48	54	60	66
Galls. per hour, approx.	14400	18000	21600	25200	28800	32400	36000
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2	6	6 1/2
" Exhaust Outlet .. in.	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	5 1/2	6	6 1/2
Price	210	270	330	390	450	510	570

NOTE.—Pumps with 18 in. Steam Cylinders, and above, have strong base plates,

as shown. These are unnecessary with smaller sizes.

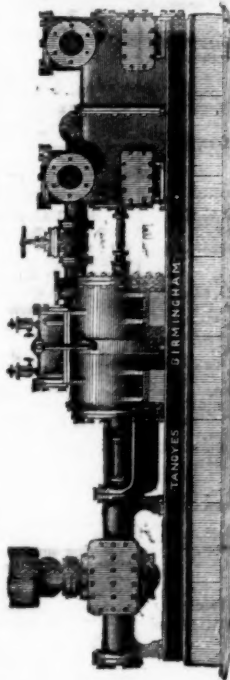
61

THE "SPECIAL"

CONDENSING STEAM PUMP ENGINE.

Cameron and Floyd's Patents.

TANGYES LIMITED SOLE MAKERS.



The illustration shows a "Special" Steam Pumping Engine with Horizontal Air-Pump Condenser attached. This combination is well adapted for use in Collieries and Mines, as not only is the steam effectually condensed, but a steady vacuum, equal to about 1 1/4 lb. per square inch on the piston, is obtained.

The Condenser is of simple construction, and is fitted with doors for ready access to the valves; the Air-Pump, Barrel, Bucket, Valve Seats, Guards, and Injection Spray-pipe, are of Gun-metal.

The Condenser can be attached to any Pump having Steam Cylinder over 7 in. diameter.

62

THE "SPECIAL"

CONDENSING STEAM PUMP ENGINE.

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	8	9	10	12	14	16	18
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	4	5	6	8	10	12	14
Length Stroke	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
Galls. per hour, approx.	1800	2200	2700	3300	4000	4800	5600
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	1 1/2	1 3/4	2	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4	3
" Such'n and Del'y .. in.	1 1/2	1 3/4	2	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4	3
Price	40	50	60	75	90	110	130

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Length Stroke	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
Galls. per hour, approx.	3600	4500	5400	6300	7200	8100	9000
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4	3	3 1/2	3 3/4	4
" Such'n and Del'y .. in.	2 1/4	2 1/2	2 3/4	3	3 1/2	3 3/4	4
Price	110	130	150	170	190	210	230

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	16	18	20	22	24	26	28
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Length Stroke	30	36	42	48	54	60	66
Galls. per hour, approx.	5400	6300	7200	8100	9000	10000	11000
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	2 3/4	3	3 1/2	3 3/4	4	4 1/2	4 3/4
" Such'n and Del'y .. in.	2 3/4	3	3 1/2	3 3/4	4	4 1/2	4 3/4
Price	150	170	190	210	230	250	270

Diam. Steam Cyl. in.	20	22	24	26	28	30	32
Diam. Water Cyl. in.	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
Length Stroke	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
Galls. per hour, approx.	7200	8100	9000	10000	11000	12000	13000
Lift in ft. per lb. at press.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Diam. Steam Inlet .. in.	3 1/2	3 3/4	4	4 1/2	4 3/4	5	5 1/2
" Such'n and Del'y .. in.	3 1/2	3 3/4	4	4 1/2	4 3/4	5	5 1/2
Price	210	230	250	270	290	310	330

Quotations on receipt of necessary particulars.

63

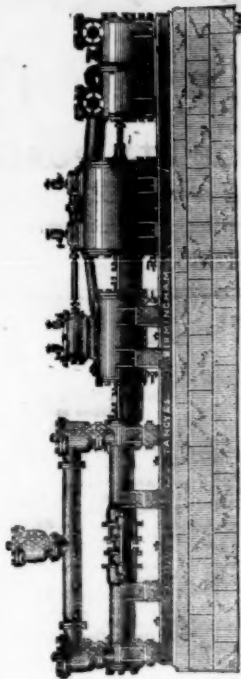
THE "SPECIAL"

COMPOUND CONDENSING STEAM PUMP ENGINE.

For use in Mines, Waterworks, Sewage Works, &c.

Cameron and Floyd's Patents

TANGYES LIMITED SOLE MAKERS.



The illustration indicates the general arrangement of this Pumping Engine, and its applicability to Mining and Waterworks purposes. The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company have a number of them at work, and the report of their Engineer is given below. Newcastle-on-Tyne, October 20th, 1879.

Messrs. TANGYES BIRMINGHAM.
21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1339, 1341, 1343, 1345, 1347, 1349, 1351, 1353, 1355, 1357, 1359, 1361, 1363, 1365, 1367, 1369, 1371, 1373, 1375, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1383, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1391, 1393, 1395, 1397, 1399, 1401, 1403, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1413, 1415, 1417, 1419, 1421, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1431, 1433, 1435, 1437, 1439, 1441, 1443, 1445, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1453, 1455, 1457, 1459, 1461, 1463, 1465, 1467, 1469, 1471, 1473, 1475, 1477, 1479, 1481, 1483, 1485, 1487, 1489, 1491, 1493, 1495, 1497, 1499, 1501, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509, 1511, 1513, 1515, 1517, 1519, 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527, 1529, 1531, 1533, 1535, 1537, 1539, 1541, 1543, 1545, 1547, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1555, 1557, 1559, 1561, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569, 1571, 1573, 1575, 1577, 1579, 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1595, 1597, 1599, 1601, 1603, 1605, 1607, 1609, 1611, 1613, 1615, 1617, 1619, 1621, 1623, 1625, 1627, 1629, 1631, 1633, 1635, 1637, 1639, 1641, 1643, 1645, 1647, 1649, 1651, 1653, 1655, 1657, 1659, 1661, 1663, 1665, 1667, 1669, 1671, 1673, 1675, 1677, 1679, 1681, 1683, 1685, 1687, 1689, 1691, 1693, 1695, 1697, 1699, 1701, 1703, 1705, 1707, 1709, 1711, 1713, 1715, 1717, 1719, 1721, 1723, 1725, 1727, 1729, 1731, 1733, 1735, 1737, 1739, 1741, 1743, 1745, 1747, 1749, 1751, 1753, 1755, 1757, 1759, 1761, 1763, 1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1781, 1783, 1785, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1793, 1795, 1797, 1799, 1801, 1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1817, 1819, 1821, 1823, 1825, 1827, 1829, 1831, 1833, 1835, 1837, 1839, 1841, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1849, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1857, 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1867, 1869, 1871, 1873, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, 2035, 2037, 2039, 2041, 2043, 2045, 2047, 2049, 2051, 2053, 2055, 2057, 2059, 2061, 2063, 2065, 2067, 2069, 2071, 2073, 2075, 2077, 2079, 2081, 2083, 2085, 2087, 2089, 2091, 2093, 2095, 2097, 2099, 2101, 2103, 2105, 2107, 2109, 2111, 2113, 2115, 2117, 2119, 2121, 2123, 2125, 2127, 2129, 2131, 2133, 2135, 2137, 2139, 2141, 2143, 2145, 2147, 2149, 2151, 2153, 2155, 2157, 2159, 2161, 2163, 2165, 2167, 2169, 2171, 2173, 2175, 2177, 2179, 2181, 2183, 2185, 2187, 2189, 2191, 2193, 2195, 2197, 2199, 2201, 2203, 2205, 2207, 2209, 2211, 2213, 2215, 2217, 2219, 2221, 2223, 2225, 2227, 2229, 2231, 2233, 2235, 2237, 2239, 2241, 2243, 2245, 2247, 2249, 2251, 2253, 2255, 2257, 2259, 2261, 2263, 2265, 2267, 2269, 2271, 2273, 2275, 2277, 2279, 2281, 2283, 2285, 2287, 2289, 2291, 2293, 2295, 2297, 2299, 2301, 2303, 2305, 2307, 2309, 2311, 2313, 2315, 2317, 2319, 2321, 2323, 2325, 2327, 2329, 233

R. HUDSON'S Patent Steel Trucks, Points and Crossings,

PORTABLE RAILWAY, STEEL BUCKETS, &C., &C. GILDERSOME FOUNDRY, NEAR LEEDS.

Patented in Europe, America, Australia, India, and British South Africa, 1875, 1877, 1878, 1881, and 1883.

N.B.—The American, Indian, Australian, and Spanish Patents on Sale.

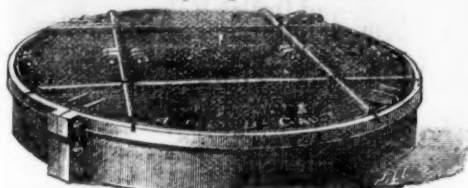
23.—PATENT TRIPLE CENTRE SIDE TIP TRUCK.

Registered
Telegraphic Address—
"GILDERSOME,
LEEDS."
A. B. C. Code used.

(Near Gildersome Station, G.N.R.,
Main Line, Bradford to Wakefield
and London, via Laisterdyke and
Ardsley Junctions.)

TELEPHONE No. 14, LEEDS
EXCHANGES.

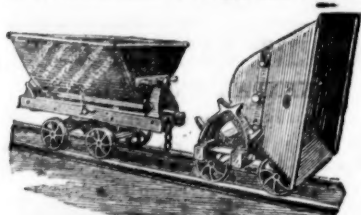
17.—SELF-CONTAINED TURNABLE,
Requiring no Foundations.



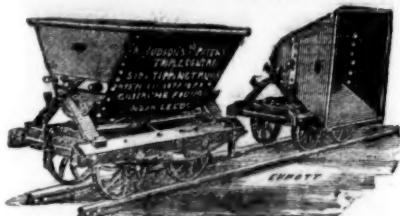
1.—PATENT STEEL END TIP
WAGONS.



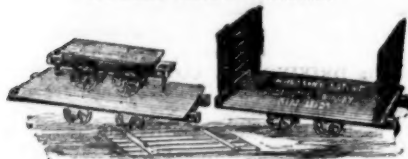
2. PATENT UNIVERSAL TRIPLE-CENTRE
STEEL TIPPING TRUCK,
Will tip either side or either end of rails.



3.—PATENT TRIPLE-CENTRE STEEL
SIDE TIP WAGONS.

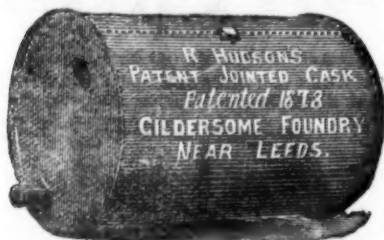


4.—PATENT STEEL PLATFORM OR
SUGAR CANE WAGON.



5.—PATENT STEEL CASK.

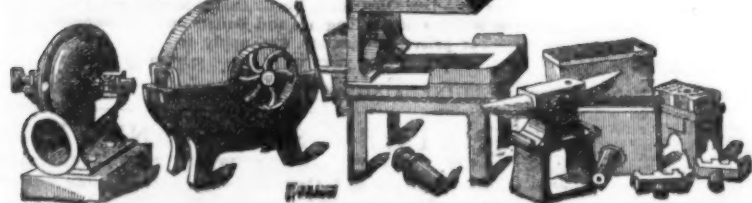
As supplied to H.M. War Office for the late war in Egypt.
DOUBLES the strength of ordinary Casks without any
increase in weight.
(Made from 10 gals. capacity upwards to any desired size.)



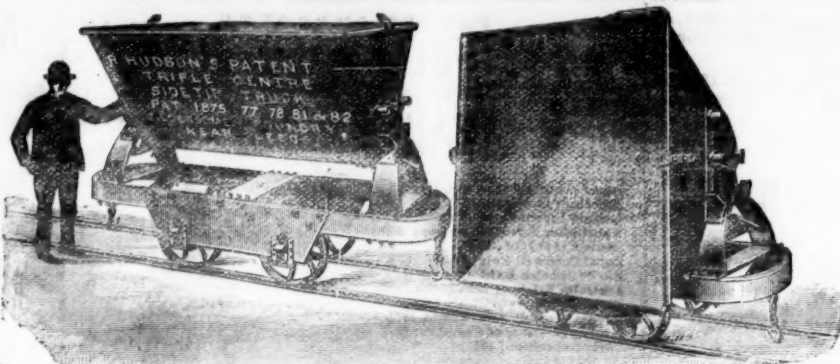
6.—ROBERT HUDSON'S

PATENT IMPROVED IRON SMITH'S HEARTH,
NO BRICKWORK REQUIRED.

A Special quality made almost entirely
in STEEL, effecting a GREAT SAVING
IN WEIGHT.

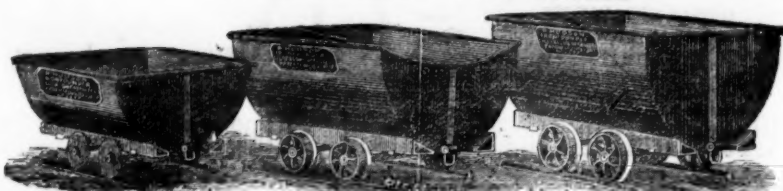


Large numbers in use by all the principal Engineers in this
country and abroad.



One man can tip any weight with ease.

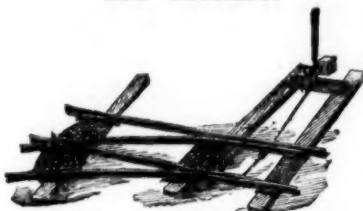
7.—PATENT STEEL MINING WAGONS.



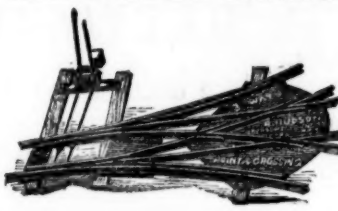
8.—PATENT DOUBLE-CENTRE STEEL
SIDE TIP WAGONS.
Will tip either side of Wagons.



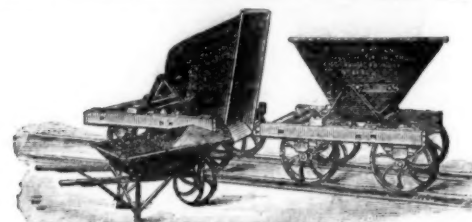
10.—LEFT-HAND STEEL POINT
AND CROSSING.



11.—RIGHT AND LEFT-HAND
STEEL POINT AND CROSSING.



24.—R. H.'s PATENT BALANCED END TIP



18.—"AERIAL" STEEL WINDING
TUB.



Largely employed in the South African
Diamond Fields.

16.—PATENT STEEL WHEELBARROWS.
Made to any Size.
Lightest and Strongest in the Market.

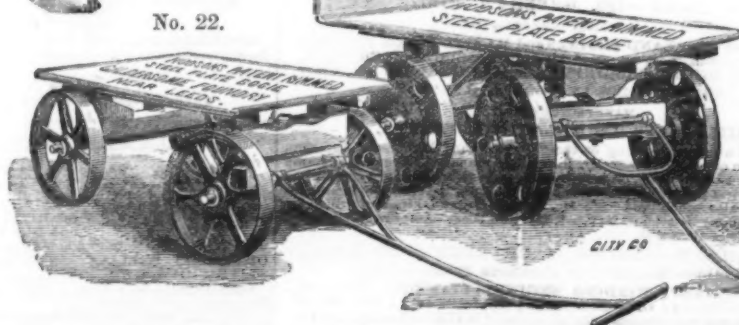


A great success.

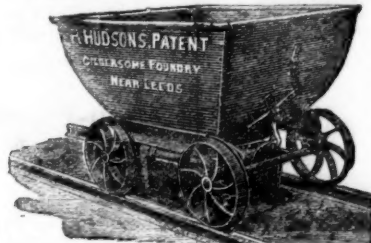
25.—PIG-IRON BARROW,
R. H.'s Patent



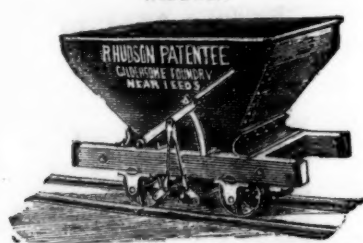
No. 22.



12.—PATENT STEEL HOPPER
WAGON, with BOTTOM DOORS,



13.—PATENT STEEL HOPPER
WAGON.

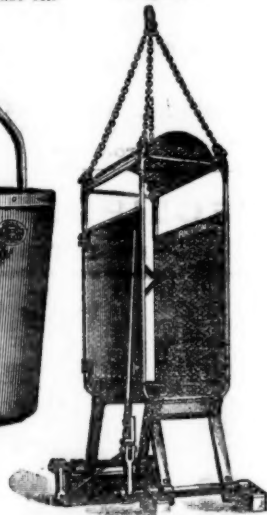


CAN BE MADE TO
ANY SIZE,
AND TO ANY
GAUGE OF
RAILS.

14.—SELF-RIGHTING
STEEL TIP BUCKET.
The "Catch" can also be made self-
acting if desired.



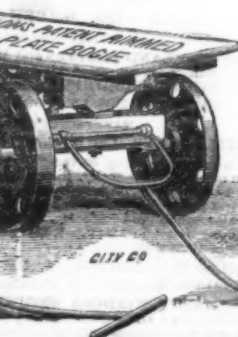
15.—R. HUDSON'S
Patent Steel Cage
and "Fallers," &c.,
complete.



19.—PATENT STEEL CHARGING
BARROW.
Double the strength and lighter than ordinary
Barrows.



No. 21



Upwards of 25,000 of these Trucks and
Wagons have been supplied to the South
African Diamond Mines; American,
Spanish, Indian, and Welsh Gold, Silver,
Copper, and Lead Mines; Indian and
Brazilian Railways, and to Railway Con-
tractors, Chemical Works, Brick Works,
and Coal and Mineral Shippers, &c., &c.,
and can be made to lift off the underwork,
to let down into the hold of a vessel, and
easily replaced. They are also largely used
in the Coal and other Mines in this country,
and are the **LIGHTEST, STRONGEST,**
and most **CAPACIOUS** made, infinitely
stronger and lighter than wooden ones,
and are all fitted with R. H.'s Patent
"Rim" round top of wagons, requiring no
rivets, and giving immense strength and
rigidity. End and body plates are also
joined on R. H.'s patent method, dispens-
ing with angle-irons or corner plates.

ALL KINDS OF BOLTS, NUTS, AND RIVETS MADE TO ORDER ON THE PREMISES.

Pumping Engines
for
Mines, Water Works,
Sewage Works,
and
General Purposes.

CATALOGUES ON

See Exhibits at Stand No. 1195, West Annexe; and also in the Electric Lighting Department, Inventions Exhibition, London.

PUMPING & MINING MACHINERY.

HATHORN, DAVEY, & CO., LEEDS.

Hydraulic Pumps,
Winding Engines,
Air Compressors,
Man Engines,
Capstans,
&c., &c.

APPLICATION.

This Drill may be seen at work any hour from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. at the International Inventions Exhibition, Stand No. 194, North Court, South Galleries.

FIRST SILVER MEDAL, ROYAL CORNWALL POLYTECHNIC
—Highest Award for Effectiveness in Boring, and Economy in the Consumption of Air.

JUBILEE EXHIBITION, 1882.
THE PATENT

"CORNISH" ROCK DRILL.

FIRST
SILVER
MEDAL,
MINING
INSTITUTE
OF
CORNWALL.



FIRST
AWARD
BORING
CONTEST
DOLCOATH
MINE,
DECEMBER,
1881.

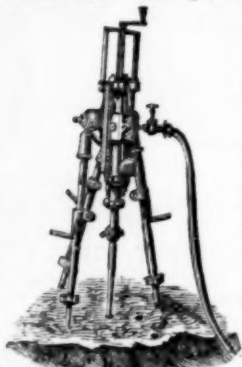
Prices and particulars on application to the Manufacturers,
HOLMAN BROTHERS,
CAMBORNE FOUNDRY AND ENGINE WORKS,
CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.

ENGINES, AIR COMPRESSORS, TUNNELLING
CARRIAGES, TRIPODS, &c.,
From own design, or to order.

THE PATENT "ECLIPSE" ROCK-DRILL AND "RELIANCE" AIR-COMPRESSOR.

First Silver Medal awarded at Boring Competition, East Pool Mine, Sept. 1883.

SILVER MEDAL—PARIS, 1878—
HIGHEST AWARD



Are NOW SUPPLIED to the
ENGLISH, FOREIGN, and
COLONIAL GOVERN-
MENTS, and are also IN USE
in a number of the largest
MINES, RAILWAYS, QUAR-
RIES, and HARBOUR
WORKS in GREAT BRITAIN
and ABROAD.

FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND PRICES, apply to—
HATHORN & CO., 22, Charing Cross, London, S.W.

For Excellence
and Practical Success
of Engines.



Represented by
Model exhibited by
this Firm.

HARVEY AND CO.,
(LIMITED)

ENGINEERS AND GENERAL MERCHANTS,
HAYLE, CORNWALL.

LONDON OFFICE—186, GRESHAM HOUSE, E.C.

MANUFACTURERS OF
PUMPING and other LAND ENGINES and MARINE STEAM ENGINES
of the largest and most approved kinds in use, SUGAR MACHINERY,
MILLWORK, MINING MACHINERY, and MACHINERY IN GENERAL.
SHIPBUILDERS IN WOOD AND IRON.

MANUFACTURERS OF
HUSBAND'S OSCILLATING STAMPS.

These Stamps are now working on the "Owen Vean" Mine, near Marazion, and may be seen on application to Mr. Derry, the manager. Four heads stamp from 80 to 90 tons of tin stone, ordinary hardness, in 24 hours. The consumption of fuel is much less per ton of stone stamped than by the old system, and the wear and tear also much less. See Mr. Derry's paper (extract of which appeared in the Mining Journal of Nov. 1st, 1884) on these stamps read before the Mining Institute of Cornwall.

SECOND-HAND MINING MACHINERY FOR SALE,
In Good Condition, at Moderate Prices—viz.,

PUMPING ENGINES; WINDING ENGINES; STAMPING ENGINES,
STEAM CAPSTANS; ORE CRUSHERS; BOILERS and PITWORK of
various sizes and descriptions; and all kinds of MATERIALS required for
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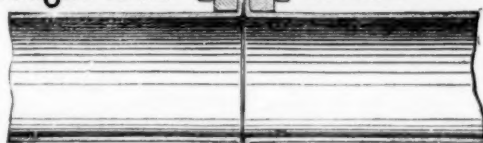
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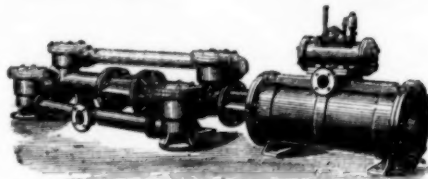
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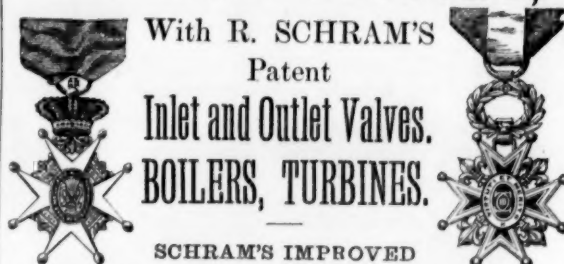
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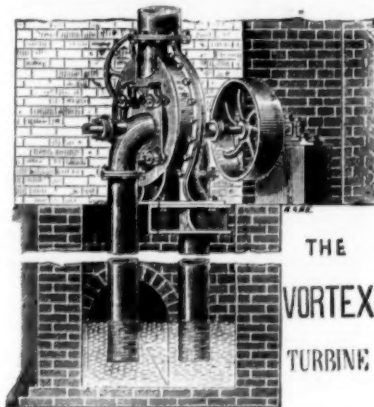
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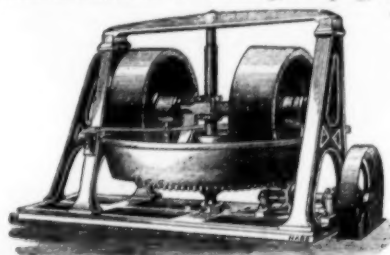
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Original Correspondence.

THE DRAFT MINES LEASES BILL.

SIR,—With your kind permission I should be glad to say a few words in reply to some of the criticisms which have been passed upon my Mines Leases Bill.

At the outset, I feel inclined to express surprise that those who have been good enough to notice my effort should not have dealt with me far more severely than has been the case, for the draft had to be thought out in the midst of an overwhelming pressure of electioneering work, and was actually worked out without any direct assistance, even in the shape of legal precedents. I am well aware that for this and other reasons there must be many details in which my preliminary draft will need considerable revision and improvement, and I am already indebted to friends and critics for numerous suggestions by which I hope to improve it. But for the most part, I am glad to observe, the leading principles of the scheme seem to have commended themselves to those who earnestly believe in the necessity for a measure of real reform.

To this class emphatically does not belong your "well-informed Cornish correspondent," who, in your issue of the 4th inst., declined in a very superior tone indeed, "to point out objections in detail," because the principle is so bad. It is easy to dismiss a subject with the offhand insinuation of motive, that a suggestion of reform "merely springs from the Radical notion that there should be no private rights in land whatever." But that is not argument, nor is it true, as any candid reader of my Bill must allow. It would have been more convincing, if this critic had given some better reason than his "opinion that the old way is still the best," why dues should be paid upon profits alone. Suffice to say that there seems to be very few left who have not declared in favour of the new way. There may be no need whatever for the formation of a Court to abolish freedom of contract between miner and owner. But first, granted that such freedom really exists, my Bill does not abolish it, as the most cursory reading of section 2 shows, and, secondly, it is open to question whether such freedom can exist, where one party to the contract is an omnipotent monopolist, who has only to say "Very well, if you do not like my terms, you can go elsewhere," to prevent any mine from being worked at all. My own conviction, backed up by a very considerable experience of all parts of the United Kingdom is that under the present system no real freedom of contract is possible.

Mr. Frank Safford deals with my Bill in a more serious spirit. But there are some points in his review to which I must take exception. He says—"A Bill less revolutionary and less creative would have commended itself more." How true is it that *Quot homines, tot sententiae*. It is positively the fact that some of my friends are complaining that I have not boldly laid down the principle of the French law, that the mineral wealth of the country below the depth of 100 ft. is the property of the nation. That may be the right principle, or it may not. But my object was to suggest a practical and easily obtainable remedy for an existing mischief, and I am to be blamed for being too creative. This is surely a little hard, when my other critics have been denouncing me from day to day for seeking to destroy and pull down everything, and set nothing up in its place. As to the question of jurisdictions, I have no desire to multiply them. I considered very carefully, before coming to the conclusion that a Commission Court was best, whether either of those mentioned by Mr. Safford would suffice. I do not think anyone conversant with the subject would agree that the question of mine leases could be conveniently relegated to the High Court of Justice, whether sitting in London or at the assizes. The County Court would not serve the purpose, principally because there is no guarantee that the judge would possess the necessary technical knowledge and experience. The Stannaries Court, if I may believe what I am told, needs a considerable awakening, and if it should seem desirable to merge it into the Commission, I have suggested, though not elaborated, the means of doing it. I think it probable that no better person could be selected as the proposed Chief Commissioner than the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries Court. Nor do I see why there should be any more objection to his sitting with two assistant Commissioners than the judge of the Admiralty Division has to sitting along with two old naval captains as his assessors.

I think Mr. Safford's criticism on section 2 that it "clearly asks too much," is answered by his subsequent reference to sections 4 and 5. The section may not contain any distinct reservation in favour of an owner working or desiring to work himself. But it must be recollected that I have sought only to sketch out the framework, not to fill in every detail; and it certainly appears to me that under the

words (in section 5) if the Court is satisfied upon the evidence that the refusal of the owner is "under all the circumstances of the case unreasonable," the Court could have no excuse for granting the application, if the owner proved that he was willing and able to work the sett himself.

As to sections 10 and 10A, I cannot see what there is "bewildering" (to an ordinary mind at any rate), although the suggestions contained therein may be "crude." Mr. Safford writes—"A scheme of confiscation more complete could scarcely be suggested." Why the lord is to be deprived of his reversion without compensation is, without some explanation, inexplicable." The explanation is simple; it is merely because Mr. Safford, in a very unlaywerlike manner, reads into my Bill what I never put into it. I have not said a word about confiscating the owner's reversion without compensation. What I have suggested is, that in cases of abandonment, the owner may under sanction of the Court re-enter. That where he fails or refuses or neglects, after due notice given him, to apply to the Court in the matter for three months (probably the interval should be six or 12 months) then the Court shall have power to deal with it in the public interest: but only "on such conditions as may be sanctioned by the House of Commons." Now, first, it is almost incredible to suppose that an owner would fail to take the necessary steps to secure his reversion, and, secondly, it is not very likely that the House of Commons would sanction rules of a distinctly confiscatory nature. It appears to me, therefore, that I have provided a double safeguard against any confiscation of the owner's reversion.

I am very glad to see in your contemporary, the *Western Morning News*, an appreciative letter signed "St. Austell," in which the writer says "if this proposed measure . . . should bear upon the holding of clay setts, which, it is understood it is comprehended to do, an important industry will to a very considerable extent be benefited, and its operations relieved materially." I have specially used the term minerals in my draft and not metals, for the purpose of including clay setts, for one reason, amongst others, because some of the worst cases of one-sided leases that have come under my notice have been in connection with this industry.

I have already, I fear, trespassed far too long upon your space, or I should have desired to add some remarks on the subject of mines inspection and club subscriptions; but I will, if you will permit me, say something on these equally important questions in the interests of the working miners on some future occasion.

Ingatstone, July 11.

C. A. V. CONYBEARE.

MR. CONYBEARE AND HIS CRITICS.

SIR,—The Cornish mining oligarchy, made up of personalities belonging both to the living Tory and fast-dying old Whig sections of political parties, unite their discordant voices in attempting to throw contempt on Mr. Conybeare, the Radical champion of our Mining Division. They take the opportunity of every mine meeting to notice Mr. Conybeare's Mine Leases Bill, and to let the world know that they think it highly presumptuous in a gentleman who has not hitherto been financially, or in other ways, connected with Cornish mining to endeavour to apply his legal knowledge and vigorous mind to the rectifying of the abuses, which they themselves admit to be greatly detrimental to our special industry—by framing a Bill—which, if carried into law, would remove many difficulties now standing in the way of the development of Cornish mines. For my part, I think that the very fact that Mr. Conybeare stands altogether free and clear of the several conflicting elements of Cornish mining gives him the best claim to our confidence, that he will endeavour to do only that which is just and right to all parties. He has no personal bias. He is not one of our lords of mines. He is not a merchant, enriching himself on the spoils of the "outside" adventurer. He is not an adventurer. He is not a mine labourer. But he is seeking to represent the Mining Division in the next Parliament, and thinks that those working men who are the producers of the wealth of all the other sections of society, and who have been hitherto totally unrepresented in the Legislature, should have his first consideration. It is the expression of this determination on his part which has aroused the hostility of the Tories (as a matter of course) and of the Whigs, who would like to take the place of the Tories in the future political situation, by still leading the people by the nose. But I am convinced that the working miners and others of the horny-handed class have so far advanced in knowledge—thanks to the education introduced of late years, and to the splendidly-conducted and cheap newspapers of the present day—that they are not to be hoodwinked and bamboozled by landlords or merchants. My opinion is that they have fully made up their mind to choose their own man to represent them in the first Parliament in which they have ever had the show of a

chance of exercising their rights and powers as free citizens of this great and glorious country; and to the greatness, riches, and glory of which their humble ancestors contributed more largely than any other class. They have heard Mr. Conybeare, they have evidence which cannot be disputed that he is a hardworking and clever man, and that he has already begun to employ his time and talents for their benefit. Who else has ever done so? Not one. They, therefore, mean to have Mr. Conybeare as their representative, in spite of the flouts and jibes and sneers of Whigs and Tories.

July 14.

CAMBORNE.

A PRACTICAL PROTEST.

SIR,—I was surprised when I read what your Cardigan and Salop Correspondent said, as stated in your valuable paper of the 27th ult., respecting the mining community looking for lead mines in the midst of sulphate of barytes mines. Now, taking the first mine in what is called the Stiperstones Range, and we shall soon see how the matter stands. Snailbeach being the first, from which some hundreds, if not thousands of tons of sulphate of barytes have been sold, and a great many tons of carbonate of barytes, and from what I can gather from the parties knowing the mine there are now in sight thousands, if not tens of thousands of tons of sulphate of barytes now in the mine. Where is there in England a more productive mine for lead than Snailbeach has been? Take the next mine in the range—Perkins Beach—one of the lodes (the big spar lode) is composed of sulphate of barytes, which the company is now raising and sending to market. Next comes Tankerville Mine, containing large quantities of sulphate of barytes. In connection with the barytes the large deposit of lead was found in old Lawrence's time. Next Pennerley Mine, with sulphate of barytes. Then the Bog Mine, with a large lode of the same mineral, and last in the range the Rock, or South Bog Mine, the lode containing sulphate of barytes and lead ore. Then, if you pass over the Stiperstones Range, and enter the lands of Mr. R. J. More, you will find at Rhadley a large lode containing sulphate of barytes and from there cross the valley and get on the Cefn-y-gunthly hill you find the same results. Turning from there and return by the old Grit Mine you find the same material coming down to Ladywell; then to Roman Gravels, with the busy washers turning over the lead, making it fit for the smelter. Joining Roman Gravels we have East Roman Gravels Mine, with one lode in particular producing sulphate of barytes. Next in rotation you have North Tankerville, with a fine lode, or we might say lodes, composed principally of the same article, with occasionally splendid lumps of pure galena. Take the other range—Hope—and looking at the Weston Mine with large supply of barytes, with every indication of lead in large quantities. Then tracing your steps to Ronnyton, or West Roman Gravels, you find the same results. Joining this mine is the Wether-ton Mine, with one of the finest lodes of sulphate of barytes in England, with some spots of lead now and then; and then say it is no use trying for lead amongst barytes mines. This I think is a mistake. I might say more on this subject at a future time, but my letter is, I presume, sufficiently long for this occasion. I cannot help remarking on your correspondent's remarks of July 4—"Miner"—as to the smelting the ores raised in Shropshire. Let me ask him to show what can be done in this matter, taking the Roman Gravels Mine last sale of 77. 12s. 6d., and the price of pig-lead at the time, and show us what profit can be realised by smelting, and if he can show us a good margin on the right side, I am certain he will find people with means who would go into the business without going out of the county, but without something of this kind it is no use anyone saying the smelting works at Pontesford should be in active operation. Perhaps your correspondent will give us these particulars so as to cause parties who have money to invest in a profitable business, and anxious to do so, to join "Miner," and his friends to send the smoke out of the Pontesford smelting works again—I mean smoke from the coal, not from the lead in the furnace, as that would be required to be cast into the mold direct from furnace, and not by manipulating the fine dust from the deposit in flues.

Pontesbury, West Shropshire, July 14.

ANOTHER MINER.

THE SNAEFELL MINE

SIR,—Can you inform me whether there is any good and sufficient reason why there are no reports now issued from the Snaefell Mine, Isle of Man? I ask because I notice that lead is improving in price, and also because I have been credibly informed that there is plenty of lead on hand at this mine. Certainly the directors may have a good reason for not being able to put this lead on the market and obtain the advantage of the rise; but if they have it would be as well they let the shareholders know what it is. Their present system of keeping everything dark will only give colour to the

opinion indulged by many of the smaller shareholders that the mine is being nursed at their expense by men who can afford to wait any length of time, especially as they are accumulating a preferential claim on any dividend that may be paid. I noticed some time ago that a Mr. Kacen had been taking them to task pretty smartly. Is he dead, or gagged, I wonder. **SHAREHOLDER.**
Douglas, July 13.

THE BRISTOL EXAMINATION OF COLLIERY MANAGERS.

SIR,—Allow me to send you in detail the results of this examination, which is regarded with interest throughout the coal field. Of 26 candidates two were unqualified to sit, three retired the first day, nine others failed to score the minimum marks on the papers in arithmetic, surveying, ventilation, practical mining, and engineering. Thus 12 underwent the *visa voce* examination in practical colliery work, shot-firing, and the use of safety-lamps, on which much importance is placed.

Five of these failed. The seven who passed and the marks they scored are as follows:—Lewis Williams, Cwmaman, 660 (the full marks); D. R. Jones, Abercarn, 580; S. Shipton, Mountain Ash, 575; A. Henshaw, Wigan, 565; D. Lewis, Risca, 535; J. Hopkins, Neath, 515; H. R. Powell, Ferndale, 510. The most successful candidate, Lewis Williams, is a working collier at Cwmaman, Pwll Shephard, and has been one of the most successful pupils at the science classes instituted by me at Cwmaman two years ago, and is now a qualified teacher in all of the subjects there taught—mining, mechanics, and steam—although his studies only began with the classes. The young colliers of South Wales should profit by this example, and I trust you will, therefore, make the matter known through your columns. **T. A. SOUTHERN.**
Cwmaman Colliery, Aberdare, July 13.

EXPLOSIONS IN COAL MINES.

SIR,—Noticing in your issue of July 11th a letter from Col. J. D. Shakespear advocating increase of atmospheric pressure in coal mines with a view of preventing explosions, I beg to enclose herewith a private circular, copies of which I sent in 1879 to every Inspector and manager of coal mines in Great Britain. With the exception of expressions of approval from two Inspectors, the scheme did not at the time meet with any advancement; I am, however, not without hope that at the present juncture of affairs, and in the face of so many disastrous accidents, its principle may excite a little more attention. **ROWLAND J. ATCHERLEY.**
37, Ashchurch Grove, Shepherds Bush, W., July 13.

TO H.M. INSPECTORS OF MINES FOR GREAT BRITAIN.

Enquiry into Some Unsuspected Causes of Explosions in Coal Mines, and a New Method of Preventing Them, suggested by ROWLAND J. ATCHERLEY, Ph.D., F.C.S. Lond. et Berol.

Certain recent explosions in mines, where the most perfect system of ventilation is in operation, raise the enquiry as to some unsuspected causes which may probably conduce to explosions other than the possibility of a man tampering with the lamps, or the lamps burning the gauze when placed in a strong current of explosive gas. It is the usual practice to charge the mine with a continuous stream of fresh air by means of a powerful fan or other suitable apparatus, or by a fire in the upcast shaft to carry a current through the mine, aided by bratticing or other guides to direct the current in certain channels. The large volume of fresh air is thought to be sufficient to so dilute the inflammable gas escaping in the mine as to render it innocuous, and it is considered that the larger the volume of fresh air forced in, the safer the mine will be in consequence. Now this theory does, only in part, accord with natural laws, and under two conditions is contrary to them. When a uniform stream of fresh air is passing a blowing fissure in the mine, the gas emitted does not mix with the air at once, but floats off on the current as a vein, and mixes very gradually with it, occupying from two to five minutes, according to the volume of the gas, in so doing. If the current is moving at the rate of 10 miles an hour, which would just be felt as a gentle breeze upon the cheek, the gas would be carried along at least 600 yards before it became so diffused as to occupy eight times its original volume, and thus for the first time assume an explosive character. Travelling on it would become still more diffused, and at 1000 to 1500 yards would expand to 14 times its original volume, and still remain explosive, but beyond this point it gradually becomes so diluted as to be deprived of its dangerous quality. Has it been recognised and understood amongst miners, that the most dangerous position in a fiery mine is not at the working head, where even the "blowers," as they are termed, are heard, but at a considerable distance from it? Has it been understood that to increase the quantity of fresh air, beyond a certain limit is to increase the current, and consequently to prolong the dangerous zone of explosive gas in the mine; so that, instead of such excess of fresh air adding to the safety of such mines, it was productive of an additional element of danger? In some cases of rapid ventilation, taken in conjunction with a large discharge of gas, the zone of danger may be so prolonged or as to meet the fire in the upcast shaft, and so directly cause an explosion. Subject to the law of the diffusion of gases, the quantity of fresh air admitted has nothing to do with the proper diluting of the gas, but the important point to determine is the time elapsing between the emission of the gas, and its subsequent possible ignition. Inattention to this either by the careless exposure of lights, through ignorance of that law, the position of the fire in the upcast shaft has in many cases led to explosions. These conclusions are arrived at by the study of the natural laws controlling the diffusion of gases, as evidenced by the late Dr. Graham. Some illustration may be had of their operation in Nature by the emission of marsh gas from pools which floats off upon the air, and is finally exploded at considerable elevations in certain states of the weather, by electricity in the clouds. It will be observed that the time required both for its emission and elevation must be very considerable, and yet it still remains in that state of diffusion so as to be highly explosive.

A PROPOSED REMEDY TO RENDER THE MINE SAFE.—It has often been observed that when the barometer falls a very much greater risk of explosion takes place, owing to the reduced pressure of the atmosphere allowing the inflammable gas to escape in greater volume. The difference between a high and low barometric pressure averages about $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. per square inch. If, therefore, it is established in fact that this moderate difference has a material effect on the emission of gas, it is highly probable that by increasing the air pressure in the workings to about 3 lbs. per square inch above that of the atmosphere, the gas will be held back and not escape until such times as the 3 lbs. pressure is relieved. Carrying out this theory in practice, the mine would be cleared at stated periods, say, for two hours a day, during which no work would be done, nor any light be in the mine, and at such times, the extra pressure being removed, the pent-up gas would escape, and be carried away by the ventilating apparatus. The mine would then again be put under pressure of 3 lbs. per square inch, which would keep the gas from escaping during the next 22 hours intended for work. By this means, a control could be held over the gas, to get rid of it at certain periods, thus avoiding the liability to explosion at any time, owing to the variation of pressure in the atmosphere, as indicated by the barometer. The excess pressure would be regulated by a self-acting throttle trap, placed in the upcast; and the present fan or blower used for ventilation in the downcast would in most cases be suitable for this new arrangement. The coal drawn from the mine would pass through an air lock or chamber, fitted with a door at each end, one of which would be closed before the other were opened. An air lock would be constructed in one or more of the passages leading to the shaft, as the workings might require.

EXPLOSIONS IN MINES.

SIR,—The fatal explosion in the Clifton Hall Colliery has naturally given rise to a deal of correspondence. I particularly notice the *Times* correspondent at Manchester refers to Mr. Ellis Lever's offer of 5000*l.* for a safe substitute for blasting in coal mines, with the view, no doubt, of abolishing shot-firing with gunpowder. I can only say that on the 21st March last I addressed to that gentleman a communication inviting his attention to a process which, by the

agency of a water cartridge and an explosive compound, reduce the danger of shot-firing to a "minimum" with safety to the miners and economy to the coalowner. This process has, for the last two years, been tried in several mines, but with partial success; but within the last few months an improvement in the action and method of application of the combined ingredients has resulted in the complete success of safety by shot-firing in mines, however fiery, without the danger of gas, sparks, or smoke. To that communication, and also to another addressed to that gentleman on the 29th June (since the Clifton Hall explosion), no notice has been taken. I may add that the proprietors of this process have expended from two to three thousand pounds in carrying out their experiments, and are still carrying them out in the North. They have within the last week received a certificate from the manager of some important collieries, stating the complete and satisfactory results of the experiments without danger. Repeated communications have been forwarded to the Royal Commission, sitting since 1879, without any result. Now, Mr. Editor, it seems apparent that if that body possessed less science (?), and a more practical mode of operation, and instead of sitting in judgment upon, would co-operate in assisting in the development of some really practical mode of remedying the evils, there would be every chance of success in now solving a question of such vital and national importance. **CARTRIDGE.**

CANKIM BAMOO GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

SIR,—In the *Mining Journal* of the 4th inst. I read a letter from a shareholder of the above company asking some questions as to the muddle made by the board, and, amongst others, he asks the question—Why the board purchased another mine (the Kythia) and saddled the shareholders with the rent of it, when they had not the money to carry on the Cankim Bamoo? This seems a very strange transaction, and requires more explanation than what was given to the shareholders when it took place. A friend of mine called at the office of the company last summer, and was shown a plan made by a gentleman sent to the mine for the special purpose. As my friend reported on his return he could make little of the plan, except there appeared to be three mines placed on the top of each other; one was the Kythia, the other the Cankim Bamoo, and the other was a long curious name he could not recollect. Perhaps the shareholder referred to, who dates his letter from London, will take the trouble to call at the office, and see this precious production, and give the shareholders at a distance the full particulars. When in Liverpool the other day I learned that the last of the employees, the clerk, had arrived with the Benguela lately, so we may soon expect a meeting of the shareholders to be called, if the board intend doing so, and would be advisable to have the information prior to the meeting. I consider it advisable to have all the information possible as to the affairs of the company, so as to be able to give the board a rap over the fingers, and show for once boards will not be allowed to play fast and loose as they please with shareholders. It might have a salutary effect, as I am humbly of opinion mining has received more damage at the hands of boards than at the hands of the incompetent managers they sent to Africa, and that is saying much. There appears to be some truth in my friend's remarks when he returned—that any person in London considered themselves quite competent to be a director as soon as they could procure sufficient shares to qualify them. This appears to me a great mistake, as I hold it requires a special knowledge of mining, and particularly its requirements in order to avoid sending out machinery and goods worthless for mining purposes. Large sums of money have been spent under these two heads, and the sooner this idea is discarded the better. Otherwise, unless some alteration is made in the Act holding paid directors responsible for their actions, I would advise shareholders to take an obligation of all boards receiving remuneration, holding them not only responsible for their own acts but *in solidum*. Then we shall hear no more of boards carrying on mines after the capital is expended, breaches of agreements, &c., unless some change is made, irresponsible or unprincipled boards as the law stands can laugh at shareholders, employees, and such cattle. In the present case the board saw the hope of the stimulant in the shape of salary gone—one resigns, and another goes to America for six months, consequently they have let matters slide, as the Chairman aptly described it, for the last twelve months. **BEVERLY, July 11.** **SHAREHOLDER.**

THE GOLD COAST MINES.

SIR,—I learn that Mr. Creswick, who within the last few days returned to England from the Gold Coast Mining Company's Abbotokoon Mines, has made certain statements in private, so far (probably in consequence of my presence in England) derogatory to the validity of the Inframanji titles held by the Gold Coast Mining Company (Limited), and myself. In doing so Mr. Creswick makes a mistake, because if he, in his "greyhound visit" to Axim and its neighbourhood, had examined the records at Axim and Cape Coast Castle he would have found not only properly registered copies of the title deeds and plans of the property, but also registered copies of the receipts for the annual rent paid. The title deeds of no property in West Africa are more valid than those of Inframanji held by the Gold Coast Mining Company (Limited) and myself. All the documents in connection with this property may be examined at the offices of my solicitors, Messrs. Millar, Wiggins, and Naylor, 6, Cophthall-court, London.

I merely give the above information because I am about to leave England for West Africa, and in my absence the statements that have been whispered in private may be voiced in public. I have no desire to land the value of Inframanji, but if my partners in it consider it worthless I trust they will give me the first opportunity of purchasing their interest. **LOUIS F. GOWANS, M.E., F.R.G.S.**
June 27.

IRISH MINES.

SIR,—Your Irish correspondent in his notes on the West Cork Mines, in your issue of the 4th inst., asks as pertinently as naturally, "With the facts before my eyes I cannot help asking the question, Why are these mines not worked? Political feeling and prejudice against Ireland should not be allowed to interfere and prevent the development of the industrial resources of any part of the United Kingdom." The plain answer is simply this—that if the well-known rich deposits of minerals all along the western coast of Ireland were anywhere else than in Ireland they would be vigorously worked, and the necessary appliances provided for their fullest development, and for placing them in full and active operation for achieving great and undoubted commercial success, and in a position to return thousands of pounds per month to the adventurers. Until English investors get rid of the antiquated and absurd prejudices against all and everything Irish, as well as of the unreasonable and unreasoning antipathy to Ireland and the Irish, and of the far too general feeling that nothing good can come out of anything Irish; and, moreover, until Irish capitalists residing in England have learned to think and speak better of their own country when questioned thereupon; there must, and can only be, but very slow progress made in the development of the mining and other industries of Ireland, and for their going ahead as they so richly deserve to do. Although Ireland is blessed and abundantly endowed with great natural resources—in a greater degree perhaps than very many other countries, yet it would appear that for investment purposes it is too near England—not far enough away, and in point of fact, too accessible. If only 25 per cent. of the moneys annually expended, and, for the most part, foolishly and recklessly expended in abortive mining schemes in England and abroad (where investors have practically no control) were directed to the opening up in good known localities in Ireland, of undoubted and almost inexhaustible mineral wealth, the results I am most thoroughly convinced would prove to be astonishing, and investors would find themselves in possession of far larger, more satisfactory, and withal more permanent dividends than they may have been deriving from either American, South African, or Indian Gold, or other mines, or I should rather say of the two latter countries—gold dreams. Almost every part of Ireland is within 10 or 12 hours of England; her mines and other industries can, therefore, be visited and inspected in a day. This fact alone

ought to weigh largely with investors in mines. I can only, in conclusion, express the fervent hope that at no distant day the undoubted mineral wealth of Ireland will attract English and other capitalists to her, and that the long and well-nigh unaccountable neglect that has so long overshadowed her will be wiped away, and become a thing of the past. **—July 16.** **ENGLISH MINER.**

KITTO, SOWERBY, C.E., F.G.S., &c., AND THE ECTON COPPER MINES.

SIR,—As a shareholder in the above mines who was not able to attend the last meeting (4th June), I wish to call the attention of my fellow-shareholders to a very serious discrepancy between the reports of Mr. Kitto and Mr. Sowerby.

Mr. Sowerby says:—"A few days before my arrival a few miners were sent into the old stopping ground running north-east, and there a solid mass of green copper ore was disclosed, which is about $\frac{1}{4}$ fm. (5 ft. to 9 ft.) wide, and it yields copper ore which will give from 13 to 15 per cent. of metal, and there is no doubt that this is a part of the true lode which the old miners had only partially worked out, and were engaged upon when the mines were abandoned. This lode will yield about 75*l.* to 80*l.* per cube fathom."

Now, Sir, what I think the shareholders are entitled to know is—why, if Mr. Sowerby's report is truthful, are we not getting monthly profits? Surely by concentrating our efforts on his 80*l.* per fathom lode, there would be no difficulty in raising 1000*l.* worth of ore per month, which according to present expenditure, would leave a profit of fully 600*l.* per month.

Now, here comes the puzzle. Kitto, speaking of the same place, says—"It consists in reality of an aggregation of branches, some of which contain blende, others lead, and others yellow sulphide of copper. In the present state of the mine those branches will scarcely pay to work." Kitto makes no reference to a lode of green carbonate of copper worth 80*l.* per fathom, and the only reference he makes to anything green is the following—"I noticed in many parts of the excavation that a faint solution of copper had tinted the sides, imparting to them a green appearance, like a mass of carbonate of copper. Those appearances, however, ought not to deceive any person but a mere casual observer."

The shareholders and the public will at once see that one of these reports are absolutely false; and I think, not only in the interest of the Ecton shareholders, but also the public generally, it is a matter which should be properly enquired into. The Ecton Mines are not far away; I would, therefore, suggest that a committee of three well-known miners be appointed at a liberal remuneration to examine Sowerby's "lode of green carbonate," or, as Kitto says, "branches of blende, lead, and yellow sulphide of copper," and let the one who is in the wrong pay the whole of the expenses. Perhaps it is only fair to say that a few days ago a friend of mine met Kitto and made the above proposal to him, to which he replied rather laconically, "I should rather like it." Being a matter of public importance, I hope, Sir, you will not consider I have trespassed too much on your valuable space. **—London, July 11.** **ECTON SHAREHOLDER.**

OLD SHEPHERDS MINE.

SIR,—I should like to enquire, through the medium of your valuable Journal, why the meeting for passing the accounts and for passing resolutions amalgamating the so-called "group" was called in Cornwall, where nobody except those intimately connected with the mines as officials would be likely to be present. Having myself given up both East Rose and Mounts Bay Consols shares at a great sacrifice, looking upon both as almost worthless speculations, I am now as a holder in Old Shepherds once more to be forced into the two companies named by this so-called amalgamation; and I make this protest trusting that some of the influential holders will not pass any such resolutions, but adopt an amendment that we shall raise what fresh capital is required upon preference shares, and keep ourselves as a separate concern.

AN ORIGINAL SHAREHOLDER IN THREE OF THE GROUP.

DEVON FRIENDSHIP MINES.

SIR,—Being a considerable holder of both the ordinary and debenture capital in this company, I am glad to find one or two of the larger shareholders (as per your two last issues) are inclined to make a move, and see what can be done, as from what I can gather the mines are a really good property, and languishing for a few thousand pounds, which do not seem to be forthcoming. All I can get from the Chairman of the company is a polite acknowledgment of my letter, and informing me that such communication shall be laid before the board at their first meeting. My letter dates the beginning of May last, and no explanation of any kind has yet been vouchsafed me. **—July 15.** **W. S.**
P.S.—I too shall be glad to hear of a meeting being called.

LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS IN COST-BOOK MINES.

SIR,—Having frequently read in your Journal of the simple and easy plan for shareholders in Cost-book mines to rid themselves of further liability from calls, I wish to know either from yourself or some of your subscribers competent to give a correct opinion, if in case of my relinquishment I am liable for any debts or claim upon such mine as may be made within a period of two years from the date of such relinquishment, as I am informed that in accordance with a section of the Stannaries Act such is the case, and advised to get out of all such mines if I wish to get rid of such a serious and, to my mind, such an unbearable risk. **—W. S.**
July 14.

GREAT WHEAL POLGOOTH.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if any of your readers can inform me what progress has been made with the liquidation of Great Wheal Polgooth (Limited). In October, 1883, the shareholders received a circular from Messrs. Snell, Son, and Greenip, and from it one would conclude that the liquidation would be closed in a few months. About two years have now elapsed, and I, for my part, have heard nothing further on the subject. Surely the affairs of this concern could have been closed ere this time, and the money in hand, of which I believe there are several thousand pounds, returned to the shareholders. **ALPHA.**
Glasgow, July 15.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, AND THE BANKRUPTCY ACT.—A Manchester gentleman recently pointed out to Mr. Chamberlain that during the past half-year, owing to repeated losses in the cotton manufacturing trade, a number of firms engaged in the trade in the towns of Burnley, Blackburn, Preston, and Chorley had suspended payment, and in nearly every case the settlement arrived at by the creditors had been by private arrangement and not by public examination. The right hon. gentleman sent in reply the following letter:—"40, Prince's-gardens, S.W., July 9, 1885. Dear Sir,—In reply to your favour of the 8th inst. I can only say that under the Bankruptcy Act any creditor to the extent of 50*l.*, or any number of creditors whose joint debts amounted to that sum, can prevent a private arrangement and secure a public investigation. I do not think the law can easily do more than this for the protection of creditors; and if they prefer a private arrangement with all the experience of the past to a public enquiry, I do not know how it is to be prevented. The experience, however, of the working of the present Act shows that in a great number of cases where private arrangements have been proposed and rejected bankruptcy has produced much better results. **—J. CHAMBERLAIN.**"

John Cartwright, night manager at the Old Park Colliery, Lower Gornal, met with a shocking death on Saturday. When he was directing the miners to do some work in a gate road a sudden bump occurred, and a large piece of coal fell from the roof, crushing the deceased into the ground. He was frightfully injured, his ribs protruding into the lungs, and he died when being removed to his home. The miners escaped injury.

Trade Reports.

CORNWALL.

July 16.—There is really no change worth noticing in the general condition of mining affairs. Confidence in the steady character of the tin market and its prospective improvement continues unabated, and there are those who are sanguine enough to look for a revival of trade and some improvement all round. That, however, is hardly our view. The state of the political world has not been the disturbing element of late that it was thought likely to be; but it must be borne in mind that we have an autumn of agitation to look forward to, the effects of which cannot be wholly satisfactory. It will not be wise either to expect too much from the enquiry into the depression of trade which has been promised, but a good deal will depend upon the result of the November elections.

The very satisfactory increase in the dividend at East Pool from 17. to 17. 4s., may fairly be accredited to the improved price for tin realised during the quarter, and if the mine might very well have paid a shilling more we cannot but think that the committee were well advised in looking ahead. The reserve fund would well bear a yet further addition, for there is nothing like having money enough in hand for the prompt payment of accounts. East Pool finances, however, are quite in a model condition, with all merchants' bills charged up, and no bankers' charges incurred for the past 12 months. This is the position in which every dividend mine ought to be, and the shareholders who are wise enough to submit to a little present sacrifice for the attainment of such results are to be congratulated. The report of the state of the mine cautious as it was—too cautious probably for some sanguine adventurers—strikes us as eminently satisfactory. The different points in operation are valued in the aggregate at no less an amount than 9637. per fathom, and while of course there are variations which must come in every mine, it is a most satisfactory thing to see that East Pool is so good all round, and not depending upon one or two points, or even on a dozen for the matter of that. Besides, there is something to look forward to in the junction of the engine and caunter lodes. In fact, anyone who is dissatisfied with the position and prospects of East Pool must be very hard to please.

From the very decided way in which several of our more prominent mining men have spoken out since the production of Mr. Conybeare's draft measure, there certainly seems to be some mistake somewhere. Mr. Henry Rogers's idea that no mine ought to pay more than one-eighteenth dues is right enough, but how much better would it be instead of having an arbitrary figure to let the mine itself fix the dues by assessing them on profits. Mr. Conybeare's Bill in its present shape will never become law, but its main principles will form the basis of legislation before many years have passed away for all that, and for an "amateur" most people think he has had very keen insight.

The importance which tributary still is to mining operations—much as some managers have been in the habit of discouraging it of late years—is very well seen in the fact that the reason West Basset did not meet its costs during the quarter were the inability of the tributary to make a living at the current prices, and their consequent cessation of work. The same thing has taken place elsewhere. Our belief is that it is advisable rather to strain a point in favour of the tributary to keep them going. There is no one single class of men to whom Cornish and Devonshire mining is more indebted, for there never were such a school as the tribute pitch to turn out capable men, and the discoveries made by tributary have done more to develop mining enterprise than any other one single cause.

Among the many points in Mr. Frecheville's admirable report worthy of and calling for special remark, there is certainly none of more importance in a personal point of view than that which treats of the fatal accidents. With one exception, 1884 has the smallest record under this head numerically, and proportionately it stands third. In 1876 the deaths by accident per thousand employed were '98, 21 out of 21,238. In 1884 they were 1.13, 17 out of 14,988. By casualties in shafts there were five deaths; at surface there were two; and underground there were eight, six of which were due to explosives. Of these six one only is considered by Mr. Frecheville to have been really purely accidental, the rest being due to carelessness. Thus, one man died from the effects of the fumes of dynamite cartridges, which caught fire because they were not properly protected. Three other deaths were from the direct violation of the special rules with regard to missed holes and old sockets; and another was caused by the use of an iron tamping bar. Another death arose from the deceased attempting to ride up in the skip in defiance of orders. In yet another case, at Holmbush, a man was killed by a descending skip, which he need not have encountered. But Mr. Frecheville adds that the evidence showed "a great lack of supervision in the management of the mine, and of culpable disregard or ignorance on the part of the engineman and lander of the most ordinary precautions," which indirectly led to a prosecution. On the whole it appears that of the 17 fatal "accidents," nearly half were due to carelessness, and quite preventable. The non-fatal accidents—64 in number and 77 injured—were the lowest on record; and here, too, carelessness was evidently chargeable with a large proportion. Explosives caused the largest single total—17; miscellaneous underground, 21.

It appears that many of the members of the Mining Exchange have "pet names," but it would seem to be desirable, at least in future, to ascertain if they are likely to be agreeable. Mr. W. H. Rule the other day spoke of "Mordecai" to the annoyance of Mr. Curtis, of Camborne, and in the words of one of the witnesses in the subsequent case before the magistrates this week, the parties "replied with sticks." Unquestionably Mr. Curtis had no right to hit Mr. Rule, but to some people's feelings it would be worse to be called "Mordecai" than to be knocked down and Mr. Curtis's share of the provocation hardly seems to have been taken into account. Probably it would be quite as well if "pet names" were abolished from the Exchange as well as fighting.

SOUTH WALES.

July 16.—The shipments of coal during the month of June were of a very satisfactory character, bringing the total at Cardiff to a higher figure than for the first six months of 1884. Cardiff sent away 645,080 tons foreign and 100,083 coastwise, with 22,542 tons patent fuel; Newport, 159,068 tons foreign, and 95,396 coastwise; Swansea, 69,525 tons foreign, and 66,564 coastwise, with 29,043 tons patent fuel. Last week Cardiff shipped 134,977 tons foreign, and about 25,000 coastwise, with 8355 tons patent fuel; Newport, 30,195 tons foreign, and 26,417 coastwise; Swansea, 15,915 tons foreign, and about 16,000 coastwise, with 6250 tons patent fuel. Trade at the present time is fluctuating, but on the whole there is not much to complain about. Profits are small, but we must become accustomed to that condition of things.

The amount of iron and steel shipped during the month of June shows a decided improvement. Newport sent away 13,993 tons, and Cardiff 5646. The amount sent away in the first six months of 1885 was:—Newport, 61,329 tons; Cardiff, 24,523.

Last week Newport sent away 1100 tons, and Cardiff 2978. Iron ore has arrived at Newport to the extent of 11,770 tons from Bilbao, and 3400 from other places; Cardiff received 6105 tons from Bilbao, and 2392 from other places. Prices remain low.

The example of Dowlais in the making of steel sleepers has been followed by Tredegar, and there is now an excellent prospect of a good trade at both works in these articles. The orders are coming in from India, where the wooden sleepers are destroyed by the ravages of white ants. We shall probably see light iron carriages used on railways some day, a certain advantage in one respect, as there would be less danger from destruction by fire.

The loss of life in mines in South Wales in 1884, according to Mr. Thomas Wales' report, has been no less than 44 per cent. of the total by falls of roof alone. It would be a great improvement if all timbering were done by properly appointed men instead of by the miners, who will not spare the time to execute the work in a safe manner. The men complain of want of timber at times, but that is stated to be a myth. There is an amount of recklessness in some men which is astonishing, but familiarity with danger breeds contempt.

The determination of the tin-plate manufacturers to reduce the make has caused the market to be firm, but underhandedness in selling is still existent. Makers are asking from 14s. to 15s. 6d. for good IC cokes.

LANCASHIRE.

July 16.—The condition of both the Coal and the Iron Trades of this district continues without material change. In the iron trade business during the past week has again dragged on very slowly at excessively low prices, and in neither pig nor finished iron do buyers show any confidence to give out orders beyond their actual ascertained requirements. In pig-iron prices generally have gradually shrunk to pretty nearly the level of the minimum rates which have been current in the market, and 38s. to 39s., less 2½ delivered equal to Manchester, would now pretty well cover the actual figure at which almost any local or district brand could be bought. Scotch and Middlesborough irons are both offered here at extremely low figures; quoted rates do not actually give way, but for a firm offer there would in most cases be a disposition to come a little under the quoted price. In finished iron there have been a few extra orders giving out since the Quarterly Meetings, but no better prices have been obtainable, and for delivery into Manchester bars remain at 57. 5s.; hoops, 57. 15s. to 57. 17s. 6d.; sheets, 67. 15s. to 77., with North Country plates to be got at 57. 6s. 8d. per ton. Reports as to the condition of the engineering trades are to the effect that in most branches there is still a general slackening off.

The demand for all descriptions of round coal for house fire, steam, and iron-making purposes, and for engine classes of fuel continues extremely dull, with prices about the same as last week. At the pit mouth best Wigan Arley averages 8s. to 8s. 6d.; seconds, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; Pemberton Four-feet, 6s. 6d. to 7s.; common round coal, 5s. to 5s. 6d.; burgie, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 9d.; best slack, 3s. 6d. to 4s.; and common sorts, 2s. 6d. to 3s. A good deal of slack is going down at some of the collieries, but generally they are working short time, and in some cases have difficulty in running more than three to four days a week.

In the Shipping Trade there has been rather more doing, but the prices obtainable have shown no improvement. There has been common steam coal delivered at Garston offering at 6s. 9d., and the best sorts do not fetch more than 7s. to 7s. 3d. per ton either at Liverpool or Garston.

DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

July 16.—There is not much that is new to report with respect to mining in Derbyshire, which is now very quiet, and likely to continue so. In the lead districts operations have gone on much as usual, the production of ore, of course, being below considerably what it was at one time, there being a good many mines standing, whilst at others the output is comparatively trifling. There are, of course, a few mines that are doing well, and from them the great bulk of the material is obtained, and these, as a rule, are well equipped with machinery, and the best of mining appliances. Experience, indeed, has shown that mining cannot be profitably carried on unless with capital, practical experience, and the best and most approved of modern requirements in the shape of plant. At some of the small mines in Derbyshire all these have been wanting, and a few men work in the old manner without machinery, and it is almost needless to say that under such circumstances the most that is realised is little above ordinary miners' wages, and, in some instances, not even that. In thus noticing the Derbyshire lead mining districts it may not be out of place to express the regret which is generally felt in the Peak district at the death of Mr. J. Hall, solicitor, of Castleton, who was well known as the Judge of the High Peak Mineral Court, and who joined the Great Majority at the good old age of 94 years.

Coal mining in Derbyshire is particularly quiet just now, particularly as regards household fuel, and this is likely to be the case for the next couple of months. There are a few collieries that are sending a tolerably fair tonnage for the season to the Metropolis, but prices are exceptionally low, and one would think cannot above pay the cost. Those who may and do sell direct to the consumers are in a better position than those who have to dispose of what they send wholesale through agents, as most have to do. Coal from Derbyshire is now being delivered in the Metropolis at from 17s. to 19s. per ton, and when all the expenses of carriage, &c., are deducted, there certainly cannot be much left for the colliery owners. Still there are a number of miners out on strike who evidently have no idea of the difficulties that are now experienced in selling coal, and that without profit. These men have been asked to send the coal out in a marketable state, free, or nearly so, from dirt, and some of their output has been forfeited in non-compliance with the request. Buyers of house coal do not care to have a large quantity of slack and clinkers delivered to them when they pay for large and clean fuel which should burn, and not tend to extinguish the fire. The markets in the eastern counties have also become quiet for all kinds of fuel, although it is understood that stocks generally are light, but merchants in all directions are evidently of opinion that with coal being so plentiful, and short time the rule in most mining districts, the probability is that prices will come down still lower, and this is by no means unlikely. Steam coal is in fair request for July, although the Derbyshire collieries are not able to send much for shipment, but the railway companies are now taking a fair tonnage, whilst an average is going to the ironworks for furnace and other purposes. Gas coal continues quiet, and is not likely to move off quicker than it has lately done for some few weeks to come, for this is about the quietest period of the year as regards the requirements of the gas companies. Riddled slack and nuts have gone off but moderately, and the same may be said with respect to ordinary slack and smudge, which has to be sold as a rule at less than it costs the colliery owner, and who is in that position that he cannot help this being the case.

The production of pig-iron at the works in Derbyshire has kept up very well, although it is not so large as it has been, but the demand has scarcely kept pace with it, whilst prices are such

that makers may well hold back from increasing the output. The best foundry pig is quoted at 42s. per ton, and inferior from 34s. upwards. The forges are not doing much in the aggregate, and a good many of the men are but partially employed. This is all the more to be regretted, but it shows that the depression is general, for some of the works in Derbyshire have long had a reputation for rolled iron and forgings of various kinds second to none in the country. In foundry material no improvement can be said to have taken place of late, and several of the works, more especially those engaged in the lighter kinds of castings, are not doing much. In the heavier departments, where pipes and heavy castings are turned, business is rather better certainly, and the hands are kept fairly going. This is in a great measure due to old connections and reputation, and being able to produce at a low rate, which must necessarily be the case with those who raise their own coal and ironstone, smelt in their own furnaces, and then cast the pig on the spot, as several now do.

Complaints are still pretty general, especially as regards light work, on the part of the Sheffield manufacturers, as to the slackness which prevails, and that at a time when the price of the raw material is exceptionally low. The make of pig-iron is by no means large, but as most of it is of the ordinary kind a fair tonnage continues to be imported on the part of producers of steel for the direct process has not as yet been introduced into the district. In Bessemer steel there is not so much doing for light manufactures, but there is a considerable tonnage required for rails, in which some of the makers are fairly off, whilst there is also a steady business doing in springs and tyres, as well as other kinds of railway material. Crucible steel is in moderate demand, and a fair quantity is being taken for heavy machine castings in particular, whilst there has been no decline in the requirements of those engaged in making mining tools and wheels. The two armour-plate establishments are doing very well in that particular department, in which a good deal of steel is used, but ordinary plates and sheets are still comparatively quiet to what they have been. Agricultural implements and tools have also become quieter, the season for them, so far as the home trade is concerned, fast drawing to a close. In light hand machines and food cutters for cattle the turn out has kept up very fairly, and one of the principal producing firms in Sheffield, which has already obtained a high reputation, is among the chief exhibitors at the Royal Agricultural Show at Preston, with what results will be made known next week. In table and other cutlery business is quiet, not only at home but abroad as well, and orders from America have continued of a moderate character. Reports from some of the travellers in Ireland are rather more favourable; but this is not likely to materially affect the general trade. Quietness too is still the rule as regards nearly all kinds of edge tools, and no improvement has taken place as regards files.

At the Denaby Main Colliery the old hands are still out and have had a rather lively time of it of late, as they have taken upon themselves the duty of preventing anyone from working. This has led to a collision not only with a number of new hands that lately arrived from Staffordshire, but with the police as well; so that several are now in prison charged with assault, the hearing of which will not take place before Saturday or Monday next.

NORTH AND SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

July 16.—Trade looks a shade better than last week. A little more confidence in the future is noticeable. Current demand does not show, however, much increase, and on all sides short time is being made. This applies to collieries and ironworks alike, and until the demand more nearly assimilates itself to the supply this state of things will continue. Coal prices are without alteration, and the pits are not doing more business. In pig-iron the Midland rather than the Staffordshire brands are selling the best, and during the last week or two some good contracts have been booked. Derbyshire pigs average 39s. to 40s., and Northampton, 38s. Lincolnshires are quoted 41s. 6d., and South Yorkshire 50s., without business. The sheet branch of the finished-iron trade still shows most activity, but prices are unsatisfactory, on the basis of 67. 15s. to 77. for doubles, and 77. 10s. to 77. 15s. for battens.

The Herbert's Park Ironworks, Darlaston, have just been restarted by the Herbert's Park Iron Company, for the manufacturing of iron and steel sheets, for enamelling, galvanising, corrugating, stamping, and working up; cold rolled and close annealed iron, soft steel, sheets, &c. The works, which formerly belonged to Messrs. David Jones and Sons, were closed about six years ago, and the new company have made extensive alterations and improvements, and adapted the machinery for the manufacture of the classes of iron named. Mr. John Southern, of the Pleck Works, Walsall, has determined to close his sheet-iron works until trade shows some revival.

A quarterly meeting of the committee of the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire Mining Accident Fund was held in Wolverhampton on Wednesday. The secretary reported that the credit of the dividend account was 1017, and of the capital account 357. Grants of 67. each were made to the widows of two miners who died from injuries received in pits at Cannock and Hill Top.

A coroner's jury who have just enquired into the death of a miner at the Ridding Colliery, Old Hill, have censured the owners. The deceased and a boy had been working in the colliery without signals, engineer, manager, or banksman. On Tuesday the deceased was killed by a heavy fall of rock, and owing to the absence of communication the boy was confined in darkness for five hours before being rescued. The Coroner commented upon what he termed the proprietor's recklessness, and the jury suggested that the Government Inspector of Mines for South Staffordshire should proceed against them.

NORTH WALES, SALOP, AND CARDIGAN.

July 16.—The importance of placing open quarries and gravel pits under Government inspection received a fresh illustration last week by the deaths of Thomas Waters and David Pugh, through a fall of earth in the gravel pit at Llanwddyn, belonging to the new waterworks of the Liverpool Corporation. From the evidence it does not appear that there was anyone appointed to ascertain and report daily the safety or otherwise of the excavation, or to see that the excavation was conducted in a proper manner. The local jury found that the men were accidentally killed by a fall of gravel. This makes four deaths by accident at the same works within the course of a few weeks. The coal and iron trades remain in much the same condition. What excitement there is is over politics, and the two sides are preparing for battle.

Mr. Hall, the Government Inspector, has called attention to the fact that North Wales is notorious for the number of fatal accidents caused by falls of roof—60 occurred from this cause alone last year. This does not necessarily reflect upon the management; the roofs themselves may be exceptionally tender. Mr. Hall, however, very properly suggests that the timbering should not be left to the men themselves.

A trip across the island of Anglesey shows the remains of many old coal pits, and a good part of the coal measures of that island remains intact. The facilities, however, afforded by railways for

the importation of better coal at a cheap rate has had the effect for the present of closing every colliery upon the island.

At the slate quarries work is proceeding steadily, and loading is active at the various ports. All fears of American or Italian competition belong to the past. None of the slates introduced hitherto into this country can bear the least comparison as regards colour and quality with our Welsh slates.

Active operations have been commenced at the Flagstaff Marble and Limestone Quarry, Anglesey, under the direction of Messrs. Higson, of Manchester, for the efficient working on an extensive scale of this valuable quarry. Although copper mining has declined on this island, there still remain valuable industries to be developed and extended, notably building stone and oyster and other fisheries, which may compensate for the loss of the old industries, and as "the old order changeth giving place to the new," both capitalists and workmen must adapt themselves to the new condition of things.

Mr. Jasper More, who is the largest mineral owner in Shropshire, has become the Liberal candidate for the Ludlow or South Division of that county. Excepting the Roman Gravels, there is not, however, at the present time a lead mine in Shropshire paying him a royalty. A paper has just been read before the Geological Society "On the Structure of Breidden Hills," but the author does not seem to be aware of the close relationship of the strata of these hills with strata of a similar age which are spread over a very large area of North Wales. By-the-way, how very few papers of a practical and useful nature are read before or published by the Geological Society!

An exploration of the limestone caves of St. Asaph has been going on lately under the direction of Dr. Hicks, and many interesting bones and relics of former occupants and their victims have been found. The limestone quarries are busy; very large quantities of stone are being sent off, but not so much lime. So far, there has been no revival in lead mining, and copper mining is almost at a standstill. There is, however, plenty of employment of one kind or another in the country; and although wages are not so high as they were a few years ago, there is not much distress among the working population.

During the month of June the exportation of salt from Cheshire was not equal to the average of former years; but the exports to America were satisfactory, as to also Norway and Sweden, where salt is largely used for fish curing; although for this purpose salt evaporated from sea water is generally preferred.

TYNE AND WEAR.

July 18.—There is no general improvement in the staple trades of this district; the volume of business is indeed large in many branches, but complaints are numerous of depression in others, and in all there is not sufficient demand, as a rule, to enable producers and manufacturers to command remunerative prices. Those who are in the best position are obliged to accept prices that only leave a small margin of profit. There is still only very moderate employment for shipping, either steamers or sailing vessels, and freights continue very low. About 54 vessels are still laid up on the Tyne alone. There is a good demand for best steam coals, and the shipments of this coal on the Tyne and at Blyth during the past week have been large, many large vessels have been loaded at Blyth with this coal lately. There is also a good demand for second-class steam coals and also for steam small coals. For gas, household coal, and coking coal the demand continues moderate. The demand for Durham manufacturing coals is also very weak, and, in consequence many of the North Durham collieries have only been moderately employed for some time. Those collieries have not been so much depressed for a long period, and unless a revival of the iron trade should happily occur we do not see any immediate prospect of an improvement in the coal trade. We learn from Brown's Export List the quantities of coal and coke sent from the Tyne ports during the past six months. The total exports from all the ports amount to 2,508,228 tons, which show a decrease as compared with the corresponding six months in last year of 55,945 tons.

The exports from Blyth and Amble, however, show a considerable increase, the increase at Blyth being 52,688 tons, and Amble 9728 tons. There is also a considerable increase in the exports at Sunderland and Seaham.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Iron Trade last week passed off very quietly, as might be expected; it was certainly the most dull and unsatisfactory meeting that has been held in connection with the trade for years. The second half of the year has now been entered upon, and some are endeavouring to forecast the future prospect; it is a most difficult task, and the most sanguine cannot at present see any prospect of early improvement. The foreign demand is very moderate, and the state of the manufacturing trades in the country do not give room to hope that any great improvement in the demand for iron will arise soon in the home markets. Some branches of the iron trade here are fairly active; bridge builders still continue to be well employed. At Jarrow and some other works on the Tyne there is still increased employment, and at Jarrow the new steelworks are approaching completion. There is great activity in all departments at the great works at Elswick. The construction of the ships ordered there is going on very vigorously, and some progress has been made in laying down the frames for the great ironclad to be built and equipped there for the British Government. The plant required for the new steelworks is also considerably advanced at Elswick.

A conference was held at Middlesbrough last week between the Cleveland miners and the Mineowners' Association as to the adoption of the lapsed sliding-scale of wages, and the same was renewed for a period of two years to come. The probability of a strike is thus avoided. The chemical trade on these rivers is fairly active, and the improved rates lately secured are well maintained. Messrs. Allhusen and Co., of the great Tyne Chemical Works, have just completed two of their new bore-holes near the original hole at Port Clarence, on the Tees, and in each case they have proved a bed of salt of about 100 ft. in thickness. The output of salt in that locality is expected to be largely increased shortly.

BOARD OF EXAMINATOR FOR THE MINING DISTRICT OF THE SOUTH-WEST.—Several candidates for colliery manager's certificate of competency presented themselves for examination on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week, at the Guildhall, Bristol. The examiners were Mr. W. Needham, Newport, Mr. J. T. Thomas, Cheltenham, Mr. W. Morgan, Bristol. Of 26 candidates entered two failed to satisfy the preliminary qualification, and three retired during the first day of the examination. Nine others failed to score the minimum number of marks for the papers on arithmetic, surveying, ventilation, practical mining, and engineering (350). Twelve remained eligible for the *visa* examination, as a test of knowledge and experience of actual colliery work, and of shot-firing, and the use of safety-lamps, to which great importance is attached. Under this examination five failed, amongst these being one who scored well in his theoretical papers. The following are the names, residences, and scores of the seven who passed successfully through the entire examination:—Mr. Lewis Williams, Cwmnamman, Aberdare, 660 (the full marks); Mr. D. B. Jones, Abercarn, 580; Mr. S. Shepton, Mountain Ash, 575; Mr. A. Henshaw, near Wigan, 545; Mr. D. Lewis, Ricca, 535; Mr. J. Hopkins, Neath Abbey, 515; Mr. H. B. Powell, Ferndale, 510. It is noteworthy that the most successful candidate working collier, who has studied at evening science classes,

Meetings of Public Companies.

THE NEWPORT ABERCARN BLACK VEIN STEAM COAL COMPANY.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, St. Mary Axe, on Friday, July 10.

The Right Hon. HENRY CECIL RAIKES, M.P., the Chairman of the company, presiding.

Mr. ARTHUR R. MOLLETT (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last general meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

The SECRETARY read the reports of Mr. Thomas, the engineer, and of Mr. Greene, the colliery manager.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, it now becomes my duty to move the adoption of the report and accounts. I do not think it is necessary on this occasion to add much to the statements which you find set out there, although of course we shall be very glad to answer to the best of our ability any question which may occur to the shareholders upon them, and Mr. Beynon is here, I am glad to say, I trust in entirely recovered health. I do not know whether all the shareholders are aware, but it is the fact, that in the course of last year Mr. Beynon was suffering from a very serious attack of illness which for a time made us feel how great was our loss even in his temporary absence from the service of the company, and I am sure we shall all congratulate him on being here to-day at this meeting. (Hear, hear.) I think the shareholders may fairly be congratulated on the state of their affairs disclosed in this report. The position of the colliery is extremely good. We can show that we have put out in the course of last year a larger output of coal than we have put out in any previous year, and that we have made a larger profit. I might perhaps supplement the statement with regard to the output of coal, which was over 420,000 tons during the year, by saying that this consisted of 342,000 tons of large coal and 78,000 tons of small, the net increase being about 20,000 tons, the increase being more considerable in the large coal, which is the profitable part of our output. The main question which probably has occurred to the minds of all the shareholders is that with regard to the payment of a dividend. As is stated in the report, a sufficient profit was earned during the year to have paid the same dividend as we paid last year—10 per cent.—but it has appeared to the directors on very full consideration that the more prudent course is to be contented in the present year with 7 per cent., in view of the large expenditure on capital account which has been going on in improving and developing our undertaking, and the importance of protecting the company against any embarrassment if it became necessary to borrow money, or to make any further issue of shares at the present time. The powers of the company extend, as you know, to a further issue of preference shares; it would be open to us to issue 25,000l. worth of additional preference share capital if it appeared necessary or desirable to do so. This is I think a matter which always must engage the careful consideration of the directors, because in the event of any sudden demand being made for any purpose it might become necessary to issue these shares, and there might be exceptional circumstances favourable to such an issue which might make it desirable; at the present moment I do not believe that it is necessary to exercise those powers, which of course it is well to have in reserve—at all events in view of any immediate emergency. We feel that the shareholders would rather accept a dividend somewhat smaller, perhaps, than they might have expected rather than water their capital by an unnecessary issue of preference shares. Of course, if we thought that the requirements of the undertaking should warrant us in making such an issue we should have again carefully considered the question; but at present the board is disposed to believe that the finances of the company will be sounder if we satisfy ourselves by taking what after all is a very handsome dividend for any colliery undertaking, a dividend of 7 per cent. in the present year. I do not know that there are in this report any matters at all comparable in interest to that on which I have already touched; but I may, perhaps, mention that the 36 coke ovens and the 93 cottages are now finished, as is also the second fan and engine. The fan and engine have cost a considerable sum of money, something in excess of 2000l.; but, as you have already gathered from Mr. Thomas's report, they are really of exceptional utility and perfection. There is no other particular point, I think, that deserves a special comment; but I may, perhaps, advert to the fact that at our last meeting it was announced to the shareholders that there would be a considerable expenditure on capital account in the year, as at that time we contemplated the erection of the coke ovens to which I have referred and also the 93 cottages. The cottages have been completed to our satisfaction, and are, I believe, extremely good. The coke ovens, unfortunately, in the present state of the coal trade are not earning a profit for us, and we must be content to wait until business revives, and we can only hope that before long there may be a sufficiently good market for coke to make them the source of profit which was anticipated when they were erected. You may, perhaps, like to know that the men in our employ have begun to join the Miners' Permanent Fund of South Wales. The payment of 25 per cent. which we pay to the fund on the amount which the men pay has been gradually rising for some time, because the number of men who have joined that institution has been continually increasing. We put no pressure, I need hardly say, on the men to join the fund, but we believe it is extremely desirable, both in their interests and in ours, that as many of them as possible should become members of this body, because their joining it insures us against our liability under the Employers' Liability Act, as the men who join contract themselves out of the Act, and the 25 per cent. paid by the company, which goes to benefit the men, is not a larger payment than the company would have to make otherwise to insure ourselves against the operation of the Act. We have the satisfaction, therefore, of feeling that not only in this case is our expenditure no greater than it would be by adopting the ordinary method of insurance; but that the sum we pay goes to the benefit of the men, and is, therefore, a most acceptable method as far as they are concerned of contributing to this purpose. I think, gentlemen, as Mr. Beynon is here, and will be able to answer any questions that you may like to ask on the report or accounts, I will content myself now by moving the adoption of the report.—Mr. RICHARD HOLMAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and without any discussion.

The CHAIRMAN: Then I have on behalf of the board to propose that a dividend of 4 per cent., free of income tax, be paid on the ordinary shares, making with the interim dividend paid in January last 7 per cent. for the year; and also a dividend on the preference shares of 7 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, less interim dividend paid.—Mr. LISHMAN seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. HOLMAN: I have great pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. John Cory as a director. Everyone knows that Mr. Cory is exceedingly conversant with all colliery matters, and I am sure that we could not have a better representative on this board.—Mr. WHITE seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. THOMAS BEYNON: Gentlemen, I have very much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. William Lishman as a director.—Mr. WILSON seconded the motion, which was carried.

On the motion of Mr. WILSON, seconded by Mr. G. HAYNES, Mr. W. E. Bagehaw was re-elected auditor at the same remuneration as before.

The CHAIRMAN: Then comes the special business with regard to the resolution of which notice is given on the back of the report. I beg to move—"That the meeting hereby sanctions and empowers the directors to borrow and take up at interest any sum or sums of money not exceeding 10,000l. in addition to the sum of 20,000l. mentioned in a resolution of the company passed at an extraordinary general meeting held on the 11th day of February, 1875, upon such terms and conditions conformably with the Articles of Association of the company as the directors in their discretion may deem expedient or advisable." I may say that in bringing this forward we should explain that as the Articles of Association limit any loan which the company may contract, or any of the borrowing

powers of the company simply to the precise loan which is in the first instance contemplated, although that loan is repaid or may be repaid, it becomes necessary if any further borrowing powers are required to go back to the company for that purpose of the 12,000l. originally borrowed. Under this power repayments have been made, and the total amount has been reduced to about 9000l., so that, although the borrowing powers, if they were exercised in the first instance, would have enabled us very nearly to deal with this question, we think it better to come to you and to ask for that additional power because of the peculiar position in which our Articles of Association place us.

Mr. WHITE: Do I understand you to say that we owe 9000l. of that loan? I do not see it in the balance-sheet.—The CHAIRMAN: It is given in the item of the mortgage on the cottages.

Mr. BEYNON: I shall have much pleasure in seconding the motion. I should think, although it might not be necessary for the directors to have these powers, that it is well that they should have them. The shareholders may think that they should have had a 10 per cent. dividend because the colliery has earned that amount in the year, and more, but we have invested a large portion of our earnings in the capital expenditure. We have purchased a large freehold property which cost us between 8000l. and 10,000l., and we have erected a new fan which I suppose renders the colliery the most unique in the world for a maximum of ventilation, and we have also erected the coke ovens to which reference has been made. I think the reserve fund and the money which has been earned has been invested in the best possible manner for the shareholders and for the colliery itself, and, therefore, I think it would be wise of the shareholders to pass this resolution giving to the directors power to borrow this sum of money if they find it necessary. As the Chairman has explained it is necessary to take these additional powers on account of the way in which the Articles of Association are drawn.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. CORY proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able manner in which he had conducted the business of the company.—Mr. WILSON, in seconding the motion, said that he had intended to make one or two remarks with regard to the borrowing powers, but everything had been so satisfactory explained that he thought that it was unnecessary to make them. He was at first sorry to see that they wanted to borrow money, but everything appeared to be in a most satisfactory state, and the shareholders could only congratulate themselves as well as the board that the company stood in the position it which it did at the present time. He had great pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to the Chairman, and he would also tender to the board the thanks of the shareholders for their conduct of the affairs of the company.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting closed.

EAST POOL.

A quarterly meeting of shareholders was held on Monday (Mr. G. A. MICHELL, Chairman of the committee, presided), and there was a large attendance of shareholders.

Mr. HAYE (the purser) said the profit on the three months was 8140l. 7s. (Applause.) Out of this the committee recommended a dividend at the rate of 2s. per share, absorbing 7680l.—(renewed applause),—and carrying forward a balance of 460l. to the reserve fund, making it 1691l. 8s. 4d. (Hear, hear.) The tin sold during this period amounted to 350 tons 16½ cwt. This realised, at an average price of 47l. 18s. 11d., 16,821l. 4s. 21.; wolfram brought 1090l.; arsenic, 961l. 7s. 6d.; carriage of tin, 33l. 2s. 8d. The total receipts were 18,989l. 18s. 3d. The labour costs were 6335l. 4s. 8d.; merchants' bills, 2852l. 8s. 7d.; Carn Brea water charges, 150l. (for three months); poor and highway rates, 319l.; dues to Mr. G. L. Basset, 1071l. 11s. 3d. The profit left, as stated, was 8140l. 7s. He (the purser) said there were no bills not charged. The average price of tin last quarter was 42l. 13s. 6d.—5l. 5s. 6d. per ton less than in the first 12 weeks. Perhaps some of them had expected a 25s. dividend, but he was afraid their friends of the Press had misled them. They had paid no bankers' charges for the past year. But they considered their wolfram and arsenic somewhat uncertain, and they wished to pay their merchants a little more quickly. Hence their desire to increase their reserve fund. (Hear, hear.)

The agents' report gave the following valuations:—Great Lode: In the engine-shaft they were cutting the bottom plat at the 228. In the 228 west there was a well-defined lode, about 7 feet wide, and worth 30l. per fathom. The 212 west 20l. per fathom; 200 west 13l. per fathom; four stopes in same level each averaging 20l. per fathom; 200 east from cross-cut 25l. per fathom; 190, 15l. per fathom; three stopes in this level each worth 25l. per fathom; 190, on south part of great lode, 16l. per fathom; stopes in level same value; 180 west 10l. per fathom; two stopes in this level each 16l. per fathom; 170 west 8l. per fathom; two stopes in same level each 10l. per fathom; 160 west 18l. per fathom; one stope in level 12l. per fathom; 150 west 18l. per fathom; stopes in this level 50l. per fathom; 140 east from rise 50l. per fathom, and one stope same level 40l. per fathom.—Flat Lode: 180 east 12l. per fathom; 180 west 12l. per fathom; 170 east 24l. per fathom; two stopes same level each 16l. per fathom; 160 east 10l. per fathom, and one stope in this level 10l. per fathom.—South Lodes: 200 west on counter lode 30l. per fathom; winze in this level 25l. per fathom; 190 west 20l. per fathom; three stopes in this level 20l. each per fathom; 190 east 10l. per fathom, and one stope in same level 20l. per fathom; 180 east 8l. per fathom; stopes in this level 12l. per fathom; 180 west 20l. per fathom; three stopes in same level each 15l. per fathom; 170 west 15l. per fathom; three stopes in level 15l. per fathom; 170 east from cross-cut 10l. per fathom; in 160 one stope 20l. per fathom; 180 east on engine lode 12l. per fathom. They were driving a cross-cut south from the engine-shaft at the 212; it was now 15 fms. south of the shaft. They hoped in about 13 fms. more to cut the counter lode at this point, and they would then have the junction of the engine and counter lodes.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a dividend of 2s. per 6400th share.—Mr. WOOLCOCK having seconded the motion, added: No doubt every gentleman present is pleased with the report we have heard to-day. (Hear, hear.) But there was a great deal of interest felt respecting the non-fulfilment, to a certain extent, of the course of tin that was hoped to have been raised in the 228. Perhaps Capt. Bishop will be able, for enlightenment of the shareholders generally, to give us something of the character of the lode in the 228, and whether from present appearances, it is the same course of tin that has been so very productive in the levels above—that we may fairly and reasonably hope that that course of tin will be continued and maintained in the present 228 fathom level—and, we hope, in the deeper levels. I am sure he will be very pleased to give every information in his power, and that everyone will be delighted to know what his views are respecting the bottom of the mine. (Hear, hear.)

Capt. BISHOP: I think there has been very often misunderstanding in respect of the big bunch of tin at the 200. Most people are inclined to think we had it to the east of the cross-course. Let me correct that error if in the minds of any. We had it to the west of the cross-course. The 212 fms. level to the east of the cross-course was not at all rich. But the 228 to the east of the cross-course has been rather disappointing, and I account for that in this way, that we had undoubtedly a dip of our great lode in a westerly direction, that coming in contact with the cross-course dipping east, of course there was confusion. You will remember that as we are getting deeper our eastern cross-course is getting nearer the shaft, so that with any little disturbance that may occur we are sure the cross-course must have some influence on that lode. Now, we have driven to the west of the shaft, to the 228, something like 25 fms. before we reached the cross-course—the cross-course proper. But in that distance we have had several branches of the cross-course, in which drifage we had tin throughout, varying from 1 qr. 4 lbs. to 2 qrs. of tin to the ton; but the lode was very much disordered, and not at all defined until some eight or nine days ago, when we reached the main cross-course. Then the lode became defined, and, as you have heard to-day in the report, the lode is well defined, is 7 ft. wide, and is worth 30l. per fathom. In conclusion, Capt. Bishop said he had

taken assays from 18 to 20 tons of stuff, and the produce was 3 qrs. 4 lbs. to the ton of stuff. They said that 30% per fathom was within the mark. Now they hoped the lode as it got further west under this great bunch of tin in the 100 might yet improve. The 212 was not so good as the 200, simply because they had a dropper that came in from the south side, and the two parts were not joined. They could quite understand these two parts coming down, in close proximity; there was a slight horse between. They hoped when in far enough in the 228 to have one consolidated lode. That was exactly the position respecting the great lode. They were very happy to meet them that day under such favourable circumstances, to meet them with so good a dividend, and with so good a report. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: I think we may say we are very well satisfied in the 228.

Captain BISHOP: Respecting that, immediately to west of the cross-course at the 212 our lode was not looking so productive as it does at the west of the cross-course at the 228. (Applause.) I do not think we had our lode more than 4 ft. wide directly to the west of the cross-course at the 212; but directly west at the 228 the lode is 7 ft. wide.

The CHAIRMAN: And very well defined.

The PURSER said the new shaft was 8 fms. below the 48 fathom level. It was added that, as a compliment to the Chairman of the committee, the head shaft had been named Michell's shaft.

MINING LEGISLATION FOR CORNWALL.

INTERESTING DISCUSSION AT EAST POOL.

At East Pool meeting, on Monday, Mr. HEARD, of Truro, said there was one matter he should like discussed. Everyone knew that during the past few months a question of very considerable importance had come up—that with regard to mine leases, and the position occupied by the lords of mines, and of the adventurers. He was quite certain, wherever Cornishmen were concerned, they had only one object and view before them, and that was fair play as between landlord and tenant. (Applause.) He, and a great number of other gentlemen, had felt for a long time past that some change was necessary. He did not believe for a moment that the lords of their mines wished to be exacting; but, unfortunately, in many cases they had not been, perhaps, their own masters, or, if so, they had not acted up to their own wishes, and he felt sure of the lord of that mine (Mr. Basset), that he and his ancestors had been very generous, the best of landlords, the kindest of neighbours, and there had been no family more anxious to do good than the Basset family. But they could not fail to remember that not long since there was a very heavy fine exacted on Dolcoath adventurers, and that fine would have been probably three times as much but for the sound that went throughout the county—(hear, hear)—a sound such as had never before been heard in regard to lords' dues and tolls payable by the adventurers. In this respect they were very heavily laden in Cornwall. Very few of the mines paid dividends. The great majority were making heavy calls, and he was sure the Chairman (Dr. G. A. Michell), as one of the oldest miners in that county, must feel that if there was to be any change—any legislation—that legislation ought to be brought about after mature consideration. He was very anxious himself that, as Cornishmen and adventurers, they should go straight. (Hear, hear.) The matter had been ventilated on one or two occasions. He thought if advice were tendered to their representatives in Parliament the advice should be tendered by those who were responsible and able to do so, whose advice could be acted upon. He ventured to mention this subject as one of very considerable importance, and he thought if any amendment whatever was made it should be made chiefly by those who had a large stake in Cornish mines, and were competent to know what to advise. Hasty legislation frequently begot instead of reform retrogression. There should be at any rate the same principle as applied in the case of agriculture. (Hear, hear.) If they acted at all they should act in the right direction. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOHN BRANWELL (Penzance) remarked that the matter upon which Mr. Heard had touched was of course of great importance to the mining interest generally, but he did not think that that perhaps was the best place to discuss the question in detail. There was a time, not very long ago, when gentlemen in the county suggested that it was not necessary that this interest should be particularly represented in the House of Commons. There were other gentlemen who thought it was an interest which ought to be represented. Well, that latter view had prevailed. (Hear, hear.) The new Reform Bill provided for that important Mining Division having a representative of its own. (Hear, hear.) Now, under these circumstances they were being wooed on the right hand and on the left by gentlemen who thought they knew a great deal about mining, and who would very soon put them right in regard to the matters which Mr. Heard had started. One amateur gentleman, he understood, had gone so far as to draft a Bill for this purpose, but whether it should be of opinion that his Bill was the best that could be found was another question. Agreeing as he did as to the importance of all these matters, agreeing as he did with Mr. Heard, he saw no reason why they should go to Lincoln's Inn-fields or to Wales for a representative of that particular constituency; he never saw these gentlemen at a mine account, nor had he ever seen their names in the cost-book of a mine. (Hear, hear.) He should feel more solicitude for such gentlemen if he observed them putting their money down. He was in favour of sending a local gentleman to the House of Commons, a gentleman who knew their various wants and requirements. He could gather from what had been said at other meetings, from what had been stated there, and from what would be expressed at other mine meetings, that there were several local gentlemen quite competent to watch their interests in the House of Commons. They could not decide the question there, but they might suggest that in any legislation that might take place on the subject it should not be done by mere amateurs, but by gentlemen thoroughly interested in the mining question generally—gentlemen who not only said they were interested in their welfare, but who put their money down, and proved that they were. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HAYE (the purser) praised Mr. Basset, asserting he was a good lord. Their dues had been 1-15th; they had been reduced to 1-18th, and they had not had a request for remission on the higher scale. They, the committee, were quite pleased.

The CHAIRMAN: The only thing I can see you can do is to call a county meeting—a meeting of miners.

Mr. PURSER: Whatever is done must be done in consultation.

Mr. HEARD: Mr. Rogers is a large shareholder, he having been a purser for many years, and largely connected with mining. I should be very pleased to hear what he has to say himself. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HENRY ROGERS (Holston) suggested that Mr. Branwell, having given a "little political kick," he would himself say they could have no better candidate for that division than Mr. Arthur Pendarves Vivian. He agreed with Mr. Heard that this question should be approached with some delicacy. He had been amused by the amateur opinions expressed by certain parties. He might say that gratuitous opinions on the part of a lawyer were not of very much good. (Hear, hear.) Speaking seriously, he was for liberality so far as the working and development of mines were concerned. This was a matter of policy. In the case of East Pool, Mr. Basset had been liberal. He (Mr. Rogers) held that 1-18th dues was a sufficient payment for any mine, however rich that mine might be. (Hear, hear.) But if they were to alter their leases he should go in as far as possible for dues on profits. (Hear, hear.) He did not say this might not require some modification, but he did not think a struggling mine ought to be made to pay very heavily until the shareholders had recouped their outlay. There were here difficulties. He would have the lord prevent large premiums being paid on the sets. There should be a prohibition of large promotion money. There was one question in respect of the payment for land. He did not think a landlord should give away his land. Was a landlord to have his estate destroyed? There were both sides to the question. There should be fairness between man and man—(hear, hear)—but does not exceed 1-18th, and he

should say it was to the interest of every landlord in the county to grant those leases upon as liberal terms as possible, because he believed, having lived 60 years in the world, that liberality in such matters was likely to redound to the prosperity of the lord himself. Let them allow him to tender his congratulations on the state of East Pool. He was very pleased indeed with the report. He had a large interest there, to which he intended to stick. (Hear, hear.) The discussion here ceased.

TREBARTHA LEMARNE MINE.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the Purser's Office, Plymouth, on the 8th inst., Mr. E. JAMES presiding. The following report was read from Captain Temby:—"I beg to hand you the following report for the meeting to be held to-day. Since the last general meeting we have driven the 10 fm. level west 13 fms. 1 ft., and communicated with Rodd's shaft; the first 7 fm. of this drive the lode continued to be of the same size, value, and character as the previous 30 fm. driven, varying from 2 to 6 ft. wide. This end is driven west of Rodd's shaft 6 fm. 4 ft. In this drive we met with a cross branch composed chiefly of sulphur mundic; west of this branch and south of the lode we reached the granite. The lode is now between the granite and killas. Since leaving the branch the lode became more capely, and less mundic, and much richer for tin; the lode now is 20 inches wide, and worth 15% per fathom. Since the communication was made Rodd's shaft has been timbered down, and made good to the 10 fm. level, and sunk 5 ft. below this point. The lode here is 3 ft. wide, and is about the same value as the end, 15% per fathom. Last week I put a pair of men to open east of Kempthorne's shaft, the lode here appears to be forming itself against the hanging wall, and I think a few fathoms driving will open out equal to the lode driven throughout the western side of the shaft. At surface we have taken out ground and built balance bob pit, and last week fixed the bob and connected it, which has relieved the water-wheel very much, and caused the stamps to work much more regular. We have only been stamping the stuff broken from the end and shaft, and the pile of white has now accumulated to 84 tons, ready for burning. The most tinny part of the lode has been picked to itself, and is still on the floors ready for stamping—about 50 tons. We have complied with Mr. Rodd's wishes and have covered the lead through the park 62 fm. 3 ft. The notice convening the meeting was then read. The accounts for the past two months showed a balance due from the purser of 82% 4s. 10d., and Mr. J. B. JAMES having reported that he had audited the accounts presented at the last meeting, they were passed. The item of merchants' bills comprised a new boring machine. It was then resolved, first, that the company open an account with the Commercial Bank of Cornwall (Limited), and that the committee be authorised to overdraw to the extent of 500%: all cheques to be signed by two members of the committee, and countersigned by the purser. That Capt. Bishop, of East Pool, be requested to visit the mine, and advise what erections are necessary for returning the produce, and furnish plans and estimates for that purpose, but in case Capt. Bishop should refuse that the committee shall be at liberty to engage the services of any other competent man. That the necessary steps be taken at once to convert this company into a Limited Liability company, such conversion to take effect as early as possible. That a call of 6d. per share be made, payable to the bankers of the company within 21 days, with the usual discount of 5 per cent., if paid within that time. That a general meeting be held on the 13th August next at the purser's office. That the future accounts be presented classified under different heads, such heads to be determined by the company, and that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Chairman for his courteous conduct in the chair.

SOUTH TOLCARNE MINE.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Windsor Chambers, Great St. Helens, on Wednesday,

Mr. C. CLARK presiding.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the CHAIRMAN read the statement of accounts, and also the report of Capt. Jennings.

The CHAIRMAN said the balance against the mine brought forward was 2348% 7s. 9d., but this balance was now increased to 3589% 11s. 2d. As regarded arrears of call, 613% 15s., the committee of management wished to know the views of the meeting as to what should be done. The committee were very reluctant to summon any shareholder, but really so much indulgence had been shown that there appeared to be no alternative. With regard to the accounts he did not think he need make any remarks, and before any questions were put to Capt. Jennings, he thought he might as well formally propose that the report and accounts be passed and printed and circulated among the shareholders. He thought he might do so with confidence because the accounts showed that the result of the last four months' operations compared exactly with the estimates laid before the former meeting in March, and with the promises then held out. It would be in their recollection that the committee recommended in March, and the shareholders sanctioned, that work should be continued at the following points:—The 80 fm. cross-cut south to cut the flat lode; 70 fathom level east on flat lode, to be driven vigorously; the 80, 70, and 60 fathom levels west to be driven on Fraser's lode; the 46 fathom level, east on the gossan lode, and 36 fathom level cross-cut south on the gossan lode. It was stated in Capt. Jennings's report that the estimated cost was about 400% per month, and the estimated yield about 150%. The loss on the working was calculated at 250% a month, or 1000% for the four months. They would see that the actual loss on working had been 1039%, thus coming as near as possible to the estimate in working a mine. (Hear, hear.) This fact was encouraging, as it enabled them to put faith in Capt. Jennings's estimates. The result of the working had been that it was not considered desirable to continue working the 80 east on flat lode. At all the other points the results of the working were encouraging, and there was no one among them which any competent person who had seen the mine would recommend it to be abandoned, if the shareholders were willing to incur the necessary call. It was for the shareholders to decide. The committee were in favour of adopting the suggestions made by Capt. Jennings, and they recommended that working should be continued at the 70 east on flat lode; 24 east on Taylor's tin lode; 46 east on gossan lode; 36 cross-cut east and west on the gossan lode. Mr. Bawden had been requested to visit the mine, inspect it, and report upon it, and he would, no doubt, be ready to give any information that might be required. He would ask the meeting to adopt the resolution he had proposed. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. MACKINTOSH seconded the proposition. He said he regretted that, to a certain extent, unsatisfactory condition of affairs, especially in respect to the financial position, he thought they should carry out what Capt. Jennings proposed. He thought it was satisfactory that the estimated expense of the working during the last four months had proved so correct. There was only a difference of about 30% between the estimate and the actual cost. As regarded making a call he was afraid they had no other resource. He was an original shareholder, and he did not despair of the mine producing satisfactory results.

Mr. BAWDEN, in reply to Mr. BURCH, said he did not know that he had much to add to the report which he had already presented. If there were any reasonable terms by which they could secure the western ground for the South Tolcarne he thought that ground should be tried. The western ground had been well spoken of, and he had no doubt from what he had heard in the district that should that ground be secured to the South Tolcarne, those who had relinquished their shares would withdraw from that relinquishment. But on no condition would he go on the western ground to lay it open for any other company. He did not see why they should lay open ground for other people to work. From conversation he had had with Capt. Jennings he thought the mine was now in a better condition than when he visited it. Capt. Jennings then told him that he had never seen it look poorer. Well, he thought they could explore their property at a very small cost, and he would advise a turning round at the 36 fm., and driving to the west. Capt. Jennings had been driving east, where they were within 50 fms. of their boundaries. He thought they should go back to the western por-

tion, and if they made a discovery it would be more in the centre of their property. With regard to the Taylor's lode it appeared to him there should be some good discoveries in that district. If some arrangement could be made for the western ground it should be done. In the course of some conversation he had with Capt. Rich, that gentleman seemed to form an idea of taking off the western part of South Tolcarne and making a separate set of it entirely. If that could be done he did not see that their expenses need be increased very much, and another company might be formed to work the west side. They had a prospect of making some good discoveries on the western ground. But there was nothing in sight at present; they had made no discoveries as yet. The farthest distance they had driven west was 10 fms., and they had broken ground in three levels. They might offer their set to the South Condurow to work it for them. He could not advise them to open ground on the present terms offered them.

Mr. BURCH thought as a body of adventurers they were under great obligations to Mr. Bawden for the services he had rendered them. For himself he thought he, for the first time, now realised something like their real position. He was fully sensible that they were in debt, but he did not understand what their prospects were. He wished to know whether the item of arrears of calls on 40 shares irrecoverable 55% was a bad debt?—The CHAIRMAN replied that it was a bad debt, and the adventurers were two young ladies under age, who ought never to have been on the register at all.

Mr. BURCH said the Chairman did not make any statement as to the amount of the call.

The CHAIRMAN replied that there would be a separate resolution on that point. He thought the view of the committee was that there should be a call of 1% per share, the payments being made as easy as they could be. The number of shares then on the register was 2867, of which 50 were a bad debt. In March last there were 3597, but since then 730 shares had been relinquished.

Mr. BURCH said it seemed that they were in debt a sum of 3600%, which a questionable asset might make 4000%. Their debts were estimated at the last meeting at 1% a share, but now they were up to about 2% a share. He thought that was a fact they should have before them when they were thinking of making another call. He should like to know what would be the actual cost at which the set could be maintained, regardless of any attempt to make it particularly productive—simply with the object of keeping it alive. That was an important point in the minds of many adventurers. He hoped, however, there were none of them in favour of abandoning the property.

Mr. BAWDEN, in reply to Mr. BURCH's question, said the costs would be 150% a month. For this they could keep the mine free from water, and about six hands who would be required. These men would do some work, and they might make a discovery of tin. They had good neighbours to the east. There was no mine to the west, but Capt. Thomas and other miners in the district spoke of the western ground as very valuable, and this company had a good chance then if they could get it. But he advised them to hold their hand until they could get better terms. This ground was bound to be worked either by South Condurow alone, or conjointly with South Condurow or by South Tolcarne alone.

Capt. JENNINGS thought they should go on working four months longer, and by that time he thought there would be some encouraging result.

Mr. WYSE remarked that in his expectations Capt. Jennings had been hitherto grievously disappointed.

Mr. BAWDEN could not but think some good results might follow from working this mine longer. He could not advise them to abandon it. If many more of the shareholders were to relinquish the thing would close itself.

The resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts was then put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that a call be made of 20s. per share, payable as follows:—10s. on 1st September; 5s. on 1st October, and 5s. on 2nd November.—Mr. WYSE seconded, the resolution was carried.

Mr. BURCH had much pleasure in proposing the re-appointment of the committee of management, but he thought they should be instructed to abandon all negotiations with the committees of the neighbouring sets.—Mr. WYSE seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

The appointment by the committee of Mr. Bawden as local purser and adviser of the mine was confirmed.

The proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

SOUTHERN INDIA ALPHA GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Queen Victoria-street, on Tuesday,

Mr. A. FORRESTER BROWN, the Chairman, presiding.

Mr. EDWIN J. HONYCHURCH (the secretary) read the notice calling the meeting. The report and accounts were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN said the shareholders would have seen from the reports which had been issued in February last what Mr. McAlpine had said with regard to the property, and they had also had Mr. Charleton's reports, and later reports which the directors had received with respect to the property were set out in the directors' report. Referring to operations at the mine, he said that the Skull reef had given the best results. Wright's level, which for a long time was supposed to be the best in the Wynaad, had not, according to the engineers on the spot, yielded so well as was anticipated, and therefore the operations had been chiefly carried on on the Skull reef, and according to the last report it was expected that, when they got deeper, they would reach richer quartz than they had before. They must, therefore, wait to see what the results would be, and in the meantime we have arranged to do what our engineer recommended—to carry on the mines under the agreement made in 1880, and which is still in force. I do not know that I have any more information to give you. We have endeavoured, of course, to carry on the work here at as small an expense as possible. We made an agreement two or three years ago for the office work to be done at a cost of 200% a year, inclusive of the cost of secretary and clerk, and everything else, but now considering that we have very little work going on we have decided on the expiry of the agreement that it may be done at a lower cost, and accordingly we have consulted Mr. Honychurch, who has agreed to do the work for 50%. Of course, if there is any active work to be done we shall have to increase the amount, for the 50% is only paid for taking care of the books and routine work, and it would not be sufficient remuneration if there is any active work. The directors hope they will have reason to raise the remuneration. In conclusion the Chairman moved the adoption of the report and audited balance-sheet.—Mr. JOHN SHAW seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

On the motion of Mr. WHITE, seconded by a SHAREHOLDER, the auditors, Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths, and Co., were re-elected at a remuneration of five guineas.

The CHAIRMAN said the remuneration was formally 15 guineas, but the auditors had liberally made a reduction in the amount.

A SHAREHOLDER asked whether the Chairman could name any time when the shareholders might expect results?

The CHAIRMAN said he could not. Mr. McAlpine was on the spot, and he was a gentleman in whom the directors had confidence, as he had had much experience in gold mining, and the directors would be practically guided by what they heard from him.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to a question, said the expenses were about 40% a year for rent of the mine, which must be paid as long as they kept the property. The other expenses were about 70% a year, making together 110% or 120% a year. He mentioned that the balance of cash now in hand was 560%. He added that this was not an unfavourable position for the company to be in as the property was being developed without cost to the shareholders, and they would benefit also by any discovery in the adjacent mines.

A resolution was then passed authorising the payment of 2 guineas per attendance to the directors, in addition to 2 guineas to the Chairman.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

the importation of better coal at a cheap rate has had the effect for the present of closing every colliery upon the island.

At the slate quarries work is proceeding steadily, and loading is active at the various ports. All fears of American or Italian competition belong to the past. None of the slates introduced hitherto into this country can bear the least comparison as regards colour and quality with our Welsh slates.

Active operations have been commenced at the Flagstaff Marble and Limestone Quarry, Anglesey, under the direction of Messrs. Higson, of Manchester, for the efficient working on an extensive scale of this valuable quarry. Although copper mining has declined on this island, there still remain valuable industries to be developed and extended, notably building stone and oyster and other fisheries, which may compensate for the loss of the old industries, and as "the old order changeth giving place to the new," both capitalists and workmen must adapt themselves to the new condition of things.

Mr. Jasper More, who is the largest mineral owner in Shropshire, has become the Liberal candidate for the Ludlow or South Division of that county. Excepting the Roman Gravels, there is not, however, at the present time a lead mine in Shropshire paying him a royalty. A paper has just been read before the Geological Society "On the Structure of Breidden Hills," but the author does not seem to be aware of the close relationship of the strata of these hills with strata of a similar age which are spread over a very large area of North Wales. By-the-way, how very few papers of a practical and useful nature are read before or published by the Geological Society!

An exploration of the limestone caves of St. Asaph has been going on lately under the direction of Dr. Hicks, and many interesting bones and relics of former occupants and their victims have been found. The limestone quarries are busy; very large quantities of stone are being sent off, but not so much lime. So far, there has been no revival in lead mining, and copper mining is almost at a standstill. There is, however, plenty of employment of one kind or another in the country; and although wages are not so high as they were a few years ago, there is not much distress among the working population.

During the month of June the exportation of salt from Cheshire was not equal to the average of former years; but the exports to America were satisfactory, as to also Norway and Sweden, where salt is largely used for fish curing; although for this purpose salt evaporated from sea water is generally preferred.

TYNE AND WEAR.

July 16.—There is no general improvement in the staple trades of this district; the volume of business is indeed large in many branches, but complaints are numerous of depression in others, and in all there is not sufficient demand, as a rule, to enable producers and manufacturers to command remunerative prices. Those who are in the best position are obliged to accept prices that only leave a small margin of profit. There is still only very moderate employment for shipping, either steamers or sailing vessels, and freights continue very low. About 54 vessels are still laid up on the Tyne alone. There is a good demand for best steam coals, and the shipments of this coal on the Tyne and at Blyth during the past week have been large, many large vessels have been loaded at Blyth with this coal lately. There is also a good demand for second-class steam coals and also for steam small coals. For gas, household coal, and colking coal the demand continues moderate. The demand for Durham manufacturing coals is also very weak, and, in consequence many of the North Durham collieries have only been moderately employed for some time. Those collieries have not been so much depressed for a long period, and unless a revival of the iron trade should happily occur we do not see any immediate prospect of an improvement in the coal trade. We learn from Brown's Export List the quantities of coal and coke sent from the Tyne ports during the past six months. The total exports from all the ports amount to 2,508,228 tons, which show a decrease as compared with the corresponding six months in last year of 55,945 tons.

The exports from Blyth and Amble, however, show a considerable increase, the increase at Blyth being 52,688 tons, and Amble 9728 tons. There is also a considerable increase in the exports at Sunderland and Seaham.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Iron Trade last week passed off very quietly, as might be expected; it was certainly the most dull and unsatisfactory meeting that has been held in connection with the trade for years. The second half of the year has now been entered upon, and some are endeavouring to forecast the future prospect; it is a most difficult task, and the most sanguine cannot at present see any prospect of early improvement. The foreign demand is very moderate, and the state of the manufacturing trades in the country do not give room to hope that any great improvement in the demand for iron will arise soon in the home markets. Some branches of the iron trade here are fairly active; bridge builders still continue to be well employed. At Jarrow and some other works on the Tyne there is still increased employment, and at Jarrow the new steelworks are approaching completion. There is great activity in all departments at the great works at Elswick. The construction of the ships ordered there is going on very vigorously, and some progress has been made in laying down the frames for the great ironclad to be built and equipped there for the British Government. The plant required for the new steelworks is also considerably advanced at Elswick.

A conference was held at Middlesborough last week between the Cleveland miners and the Mineowners' Association as to the adoption of the lapsed sliding-scale of wages, and the same was renewed for a period of two years to come. The probability of a strike is thus avoided. The chemical trade on these rivers is fairly active, and the improved rates lately secured are well maintained. Messrs. Allhusen and Co., of the great Tyne Chemical Works, have just completed two of their new bore-holes near the original hole at Port Clarence, on the Tees, and in each case they have proved a bed of salt of about 100 ft. in thickness. The output of salt in that locality is expected to be largely increased shortly.

BOARD OF EXAMINATION FOR THE MINING DISTRICT OF THE SOUTH-WEST.—Several candidates for colliery manager's certificate of competency presented themselves for examination on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week, at the Guildhall, Bristol. The examiners were Mr. W. Needham, Newport, Mr. J. T. Thomas, Cheltenham, Mr. W. Morgan, Bristol. Of 26 candidates entered two failed to satisfy the preliminary qualification, and three retired during the first day of the examination. Nine others failed to score the minimum number of marks for the papers on arithmetic, surveying, ventilation, practical mining, and engineering (350). Twelve remained eligible for the *visa voce* examination, as a test of knowledge and experience of actual colliery work, and of shot-firing, and the use of safety-lamps, to which great importance is attached. Under this examination five failed, amongst these being one who scored well in his theoretical papers. The following are the names, residences, and scores of the seven who passed successfully through the entire examination:—Mr. Lewis Williams, Cwmaman, Aberdare, 660 (the full marks); Mr. D. R. Jones, Abercarn, 580; Mr. S. Shepton, Mountain Ash, 575; Mr. A. Henshaw, near Wigan, 545; Mr. D. Lewis, Rieca, 535; Mr. J. Hopkins, Neath Abbey, 515; Mr. H. R. Powell Ferndale, 510. It is noteworthy that the most successful candidate working collier, who has studied at evening science classes,

Meetings of Public Companies.

THE NEWPORT ABERCARN BLACK VEIN STEAM COAL COMPANY.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, St. Mary Axe, on Friday, July 10. The Right Hon. HENRY CECIL RAIKES, M.P., the Chairman of the company, presiding.

Mr. ARTHUR R. MOLLETT (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last general meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

The SECRETARY read the reports of Mr. Thomas, the engineer, and of Mr. Greene, the colliery manager.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, it now becomes my duty to move the adoption of the report and accounts. I do not think it is necessary on this occasion to add much to the statements which you find set out there, although of course we shall be very glad to answer to the best of our ability any question which may occur to the shareholders upon them, and Mr. Beynon is here, I am glad to say, I trust in entirely recovered health. I do not know whether all the shareholders are aware, but it is the fact, that in the course of last year Mr. Beynon was suffering from a very serious attack of illness which for a time made us feel how great was our loss even in his temporary absence from the service of the company, and I am sure we shall all congratulate him on being here to-day at this meeting. (Hear, hear.) I think the shareholders may fairly be congratulated on the state of their affairs disclosed in this report. The position of the colliery is extremely good. We can show that we have put out in the course of last year a larger output of coal than we have put out in any previous year, and that we have made a larger profit. I might perhaps supplement the statement with regard to the output of coal, which was over 420,000 tons during the year, by saying that this consisted of 342,000 tons of large coal and 78,000 tons of small, the net increase being about 20,000 tons, the increase being more considerable in the large coal, which is the profitable part of our output. The main question which probably has occurred to the minds of all the shareholders is that with regard to the payment of a dividend. As is stated in the report, a sufficient profit was earned during the year to have paid the same dividend as we paid last year—10 per cent.—but it has appeared to the directors on very full consideration that the more prudent course is to be contented in the present year with 7 per cent., in view of the large expenditure on capital account which has been going on in improving and developing our undertaking, and the importance of protecting the company against any embarrassment if it became necessary to borrow money, or to make any further issue of shares at the present time. The powers of the company extend, as you know, to a further issue of preference shares; it would be open to us to issue 25,000l. worth of additional preference share capital if it appeared necessary or desirable to do so. This is I think a matter which always must engage the careful consideration of the directors, because in the event of any sudden demand being made for any purpose it might become necessary to issue these shares, and there might be exceptional circumstances favourable to such an issue which might make it desirable; at the present moment I do not believe that it is necessary to exercise those powers, which of course it is well to have in reserve—at all events in view of any immediate emergency. We feel that the shareholders would rather accept a dividend somewhat smaller, perhaps, than they might have expected rather than water their capital by an unnecessary issue of preference shares. Of course, if we thought that the requirements of the undertaking should warrant us in making such an issue we should have again carefully to consider the question; but at present the board is disposed to believe that the finances of the company will be sounder if we satisfy ourselves by taking what after all is a very handsome dividend for any colliery undertaking, a dividend of 7 per cent. in the present year. I do not know that there are in this report any matters at all comparable in interest to that on which I have already touched; but I may, perhaps, mention that the 36 coke ovens and the 93 cottages are now finished, as is also the second fan and engine. The fan and engine have cost a considerable sum of money, something in excess of 2000l.; but, as you have already gathered from Mr. Thomas's report, they are really of exceptional utility and perfection. There is no other particular point, I think, that deserves a special comment; but I may, perhaps, advert to the fact that at our last meeting it was announced to the shareholders that there would be a considerable expenditure on capital account in the year, as at that time we contemplated the erection of the coke ovens to which I have referred and also the 93 cottages. The cottages have been completed to our satisfaction, and are, I believe, extremely good. The coke ovens, unfortunately, in the present state of the coal trade are not earning a profit for us, and we must be content to wait until business revives, and we can only hope that before long there may be a sufficiently good market for coke to make them the source of profit which was anticipated when they were erected. You may, perhaps, like to know that the men in our employ have begun to join the Miners' Permanent Fund of South Wales. The payment of 25 per cent. which we pay to the fund on the amount which the men pay has been gradually rising for some time, because the number of men who have joined that institution has been continually increasing. We put no pressure, I need hardly say, on the men to join the fund, but we believe it is extremely desirable, both in their interests and in ours, that as many of them as possible should become members of this body, because their joining it insures us against our liability under the Employers' Liability Act, as the men who join contract themselves out of the Act, and the 25 per cent. paid by the company, which goes to benefit the men, is not a larger payment than the company would have to make otherwise to insure ourselves against the operation of the Act. We have the satisfaction, therefore, of feeling that not only in this case is our expenditure no greater than it would be by adopting the ordinary method of insurance; but that the sum we pay goes to the benefit of the men, and is, therefore, a most acceptable method as far as they are concerned of contributing to this purpose. I think, gentlemen, as Mr. Beynon is here, and will be able to answer any questions that you may like to ask on the report or accounts, I will content myself now by moving the adoption of the report.—Mr. RICHARD HOLMAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and without any discussion.

The CHAIRMAN: Then I have on behalf of the board to propose that a dividend of 4 per cent., free of income tax, be paid on the ordinary shares, making with the interim dividend paid in January last 7 per cent. for the year; and also a dividend on the preference shares of 7 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, less interim dividend paid.—Mr. LISHMAN seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. HOLMAN: I have great pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. John Cory as a director. Everyone knows that Mr. Cory is exceedingly conversant with all colliery matters, and I am sure that we could not have a better representative on this board.—Mr. WHITE seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. THOMAS BEYNON: Gentlemen, I have very much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. William Lishman as a director.—Mr. WILSON seconded the motion, which was carried.

On the motion of Mr. WILSON, seconded by Mr. G. HAYNES, Mr. W. E. Bagshaw was re-elected auditor at the same remuneration as before.

The CHAIRMAN: Then comes the special business with regard to the resolution of which notice is given on the back of the report. I beg to move—"That the meeting hereby sanctions and empowers the directors to borrow and take up at interest any sum or sums of money not exceeding 10,000l. in addition to the sum of 20,000l. mentioned in a resolution of the company passed at an extraordinary general meeting held on the 11th day of February, 1875, upon such terms and conditions conformably with the Articles of Association of the company as the directors in their discretion may deem expedient or advisable." I may say that in bringing this forward we should explain that as the Articles of Association limit any loan which the company may contract, or any of the borrowing

powers of the company simply to the precise loan which is in the first instance contemplated, although that loan is repaid or may be repaid, it becomes necessary if any further borrowing powers are required to go back to the company for that purpose of the 12,000l. originally borrowed. Under this power repayments have been made, and the total amount has been reduced to about 9000l., so that, although the borrowing powers, if they were exercised in the first instance, would have enabled us very nearly to deal with this question, we think it better to come to you and to ask for that additional power because of the peculiar position in which our Articles of Association place us.

Mr. WHITE: Do I understand you to say that we owe 9000l. of that loan? I do not see it in the balance-sheet.—The CHAIRMAN: It is given in the item of the mortgage on the cottages.

Mr. BEYNON: I shall have much pleasure in seconding the motion. I should think, although it might not be necessary for the directors to have these powers, that it is well that they should have them. The shareholders may think that they should have had a 10 per cent. dividend because the colliery has earned that amount in the year, and more, but we have invested a large portion of our earnings in the capital expenditure. We have purchased a large freehold property which cost us between 8000l. and 10,000l., and we have erected a new fan which I suppose renders the colliery the most unique in the world for a maximum of ventilation, and we have also erected the coke ovens to which reference has been made. I think the reserve fund and the money which has been earned has been invested in the best possible manner for the shareholders and for the colliery itself, and, therefore, I think it would be wise of the shareholders to pass this resolution giving to the directors power to borrow this sum of money if they find it necessary. As the Chairman has explained it is necessary to take these additional powers on account of the way in which the Articles of Association are drawn.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. CORY proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able manner in which he had conducted the business of the company.—Mr. WILSON, in seconding the motion, said that he had intended to make one or two remarks with regard to the borrowing powers, but everything had been so satisfactory explained that he thought that it was unnecessary to make them. He was at first sorry to see that they wanted to borrow money, but everything appeared to be in a most satisfactory state, and the shareholders could only congratulate themselves as well as the board that the company stood in the position it which it did at the present time. He had great pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to the Chairman, and he would also tender to the board the thanks of the shareholders for their conduct of the affairs of the company.

The motion was carried unanimously. The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting closed.

EAST POOL.

A quarterly meeting of shareholders was held on Monday (Mr. G. A. MICHELL, Chairman of the committee, presided), and there was a large attendance of shareholders.

Mr. HAYE (the purser) said the profit on the three months was 8140l. 7s. (Applause.) Out of this the committee recommended a dividend at the rate of 24s. per share, absorbing 7680l.—(renewed applause),—and carrying forward a balance of 460l. to the reserve fund, making it 1691l. 8s. 4d. (Hear, hear.) The tin sold during this period amounted to 350 tons 16½ cwt. This realised, at an average price of 47l. 18s. 11d., 16,821l. 4s. 21.; wolfram brought 1090l.; arsenic, 961l. 7s. 6d.; carriage of tin, 33l. 2s. 8d. The total receipts were 18,989l. 18s. 3d. The labour costs were 6335l. 4s. 8d.; merchants' bills, 2852l. 8s. 7d.; Carn Brea water charges, 150l. (for three months); poor and highway rates, 349l.; dues to Mr. G. L. Bassett, 1071l. 11s. 3d. The profit left, as stated, was 8140l. 7s. He (the purser) said there were no bills not charged. The average price of tin last quarter was 42l. 13s. 5d.—5l. 5s. 6d. per ton less than in the first 12 weeks. Perhaps some of them had expected a 25s. dividend, but he was afraid their friends of the Press had misled them. They had paid no bankers' charges for the past year. But they considered their wolfram and arsenic somewhat uncertain, and they wished to pay their merchants a little more quickly. Hence their desire to increase their reserve fund. (Hear, hear.)

The agents' report gave the following valuations:—Great Lode: In the engine-shaft they were cutting the bottom plat at the 228. In the 228 west there was a well-defined lode, about 7 feet wide, and worth 30l. per fathom. The 212 west 20l. per fathom; 200 west 13l. per fathom; four stopes in same level each averaging 20l. per fathom; 200 east from cross-cut 25l. per fathom; 190, 15l. per fathom; three stopes in this level each worth 25l. per fathom; 190, on south part of great lode, 16l. per fathom; stope in level same value; 180 west 10l. per fathom; two stopes in this level each 16l. per fathom; 170 west 8l. per fathom; two stopes in same each 10l. per fathom; 160 west 18l. per fathom; one stope in level 12l. per fathom; 150 west 18l. per fathom; stope in this level 50l. per fathom; 140 east from rise 50l. per fathom, and one stope same level 40l. per fathom.—Flat Lode: 180 east 12l. per fathom; 180 west 12l. per fathom; 170 east 24l. per fathom; two stopes same level each 16l. per fathom; 160 east 10l. per fathom, and one stope in this level 10l. per fathom.—South Lodes: 200 west on counter lode 30l. per fathom; winze in this level 25l. per fathom; 190 west 20l. per fathom; three stopes in this level 20l. each per fathom; 190 east 10l. per fathom, and one stope in same level 20l. per fathom; 180 east 8l. per fathom; stope in this level 12l. per fathom; 180 west 20l. per fathom; three stopes in same level each 15l. per fathom; 170 west 15l. per fathom; three stopes in level 15l. per fathom; 170 east from cross-cut 10l. per fathom; in 160 one stope 20l. per fathom; 180 east on engine lode 12l. per fathom. They were driving a cross-cut south from the engine-shaft at the 212; it was now 15 fms. south of the shaft. They hoped in about 13 fms. more to cut the counter lode at this point, and they would then have the junction of the engine and counter lodes.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a dividend of 24s. per 6400th share.—Mr. WOOLCOCK having seconded the motion, added: No doubt every gentleman present is pleased with the report we have heard to-day. (Hear, hear.) But there was a great deal of interest felt respecting the non-fulfilment, to a certain extent, of the course of tin that was hoped to have been raised in the 228. Perhaps Capt. Bishop will be able, for enlightenment of the shareholders generally, to give us something of the character of the lode in the 228, and whether from present appearances, it is the same course of tin that has been so very productive in the levels above—that we may fairly and reasonably hope that that course of tin will be continued and maintained in the present 228 fathom level—and, we hope, in the deeper levels. I am sure he will be very pleased to give every information in his power, and that everyone will be delighted to know what his views are respecting the bottom of the mine. (Hear, hear.)

Capt. BISHOP: I think there has been very often misunderstanding in respect of the big bunch of tin at the 200. Most people are inclined to think we had it to the east of the cross-course. Let me correct that error if in the minds of any. We had it to the west of the cross-course. The 212 fm. level to the east of the cross-course was not at all rich. But the 228 to the east of the cross-course has been rather disappointing, and I account for that in this way, that we had undoubtedly a dip of our great lode in a westerly direction, that coming in contact with the cross-course dipping east, of course there was confusion. You will remember that as we are getting deeper our eastern cross-course is getting nearer the shaft, so that with any little disturbance that may occur we are sure the cross-course must have some influence on that lode. Now, we have driven to the west of the shaft, to the 228, something like 25 fms. before we reached the cross-course—the cross-course proper. But in that distance we have had several branches of the cross-course, in which drilings we had tin throughout, varying from 1 qr. 4 lbs. to 2 qrs. of tin to the ton; but the lode was very much disordered, and not at all defined until some eight or nine days ago, when we reached the main cross-course. Then the lode became defined, and, as you have heard to-day in the report, the lode is well defined, is 7 ft. wide, and is worth 30l. per fathom. In conclusion, Capt. Bishop said he had

taken assays from 18 to 20 tons of stuff, and the produce was 3 qrs. 4 lbs. to the ton of stuff. They said that 30% per fathom was within the mark. Now they hoped the lode as it got further west under this great bunch of tin in the 100 might yet improve. The 212 was not so good as the 200, simply because they had a dropper that came in from the south side, and the two parts were not joined. They could quite understand these two parts coming down, in close proximity; there was a slight horse between. They hoped when in far enough in the 228 to have one consolidated lode. That was exactly the position respecting the great lode. They were very happy to meet them that day under such favourable circumstances, to meet them with so good a dividend, and with so good a report. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: I think we may say we are very well satisfied in the 228.

Captain BISHOP: Respecting that, immediately to west of the cross-course at the 212 our lode was not looking so productive as it does at the west of the cross-course at the 228. (Applause.) I do not think we had our lode more than 4 ft. wide directly to the west of the cross-course at the 212; but directly west at the 228 the lode is 7 ft. wide.

The CHAIRMAN: And very well defined.

The PURSER said the new shaft was 8 fms. below the 48 fathom level. It was added that, as a compliment to the Chairman of the committee, the head shaft had been named Michell's shaft.

MINING LEGISLATION FOR CORNWALL.

INTERESTING DISCUSSION AT EAST POOL.

At East Pool meeting, on Monday, Mr. HEARD, of Truro, said there was one matter he should like discussed. Everyone knew that during the past few months a question of very considerable importance had come up—that with regard to mine leases, and the position occupied by the lords of mines, and of the adventurers. He was quite certain, wherever Cornishmen were concerned, they had only one object and view before them, and that was fairplay as between landlord and tenant. (Applause.) He, and a great number of other gentlemen, had felt for a long time past that some change was necessary. He did not believe for a moment that the lords of their mines wished to be exacting; but, unfortunately, in many cases they had not been, perhaps, their own masters, or, if so, they had not acted up to their own wishes, and he felt sure of the lord of that mine (Mr. Basset), that he and his ancestors had been very generous, the best of landlords, the kindest of neighbours, and there had been no family more anxious to do good than the Basset family. But they could not fail to remember that not long since there was a very heavy fine exacted on Dolcoath adventurers, and that fine would have been probably three times as much but for the sound that went throughout the county—(hear, hear)—a sound such as had never before been heard in regard to lords' dues and tolls payable by the adventurers. In this respect they were very heavily laden in Cornwall. Very few of the mines paid dividends. The great majority were making heavy calls, and he was sure the Chairman (Dr. G. A. Michell), as one of the oldest miners in that county, must feel that if there was to be any change—any legislation—that legislation ought to be brought about after mature consideration. He was very anxious himself that, as Cornishmen and adventurers, they should go straight. (Hear, hear.) The matter had been ventilated on one or two occasions. He thought if advice were tendered to their representatives in Parliament the advice should be tendered by those who were responsible and able to do so, whose advice could be acted upon. He ventured to mention this subject as one of very considerable importance, and he thought if any amendment whatever was made it should be made chiefly by those who had a large stake in Cornish mines, and were competent to know what to advise. Hasty legislation frequently begot instead of reform retrogression. There should be at any rate the same principle as applied in the case of agriculture. (Hear, hear.) If they acted at all they should act in the right direction. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. JOHN BRANWELL (Penzance) remarked that the matter upon which Mr. Heard had touched was of course of great importance to the mining interest generally, but he did not think that that perhaps was the best place to discuss the question in detail. There was a time, not very long ago, when gentlemen in the county suggested that it was not necessary that this interest should be particularly represented in the House of Commons. There were other gentlemen who thought it was an interest which ought to be represented. Well, that latter view had prevailed. (Hear, hear.) The new Reform Bill provided for that important Mining Division having a representative of its own. (Hear, hear.) Now, under these circumstances they were being wooed on the right hand and on the left by gentlemen who thought they knew a great deal about mining, and who would very soon put them right in regard to the matters which Mr. Heard had started. One amateur gentleman, he understood, had gone so far as to draft a Bill for this purpose, but whether they should be of opinion that his Bill was the best that could be found was another question. Agreeing as he did as to the importance of all these matters, agreeing as he did with Mr. Heard, he saw no reason why they should go to Lincoln's Inn-fields or to Wales for a representative of that particular constituency; he never saw these gentlemen at a mine account, nor had he ever seen their names in the cost-book of a mine. (Hear, hear.) He should feel more solicitude for such gentlemen if he observed them putting their money down. He was in favour of sending a local gentleman to the House of Commons, a gentleman who knew their various wants and requirements. He could gather from what had been said at other meetings, from what had been stated there, and from what would be expressed at other mine meetings, that there were several local gentlemen quite competent to watch their interests in the House of Commons. They could not decide the question there, but they might suggest that in any legislation that might take place on the subject it should not be done by mere amateurs, but by gentlemen thoroughly interested in the mining question generally—gentlemen who not only said they were interested in their welfare, but who put their money down, and proved that they were. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HAYE (the purser) praised Mr. Basset, asserting he was a good lord. Their dues had been 1-15th; they had been reduced to 1-18th, and they had not had a request to remittance on the higher scale. They, the committee, were quite pleased.

The CHAIRMAN: The only thing I can see you can do is to call a county meeting—a meeting of miners.

Mr. PURSER: Whatever is done must be done in consultation.

Mr. HEARD: Mr. Rogers is a large shareholder, he having been a purser for many years, and largely connected with mining. I should be very pleased to hear what he has to say himself. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HENRY ROGERS (Helston) suggested that Mr. Branwell, having given a "little political kick," he would himself say they could have no better candidate for that division than Mr. Arthur Pendarves Vivian. He agreed with Mr. Heard that this question should be approached with some delicacy. He had been amused by the amateur opinions expressed by certain parties. He might say that gratuitous opinions on the part of a lawyer were not of very much good. (Hear, hear.) Speaking seriously, he was for liberality so far as the working and development of mines were concerned. This was a matter of policy. In the case of East Pool, Mr. Basset had been liberal. He (Mr. Rogers) held that 1-18th dues was a sufficient payment for any mine, however rich that mine might be. (Hear, hear.) But if they were to alter their leases he should go in as far as possible for dues on profits. (Hear, hear.) He did not say this might not require some modification, but he did not think a struggling mine ought to be made to pay very heavily until the shareholders had recouped their outlay. There were here difficulties. He would have the lord prevent large premiums being paid on the sets. There should be a prohibition of large promotion money. There was one question in respect of the payment for land. He did not think a landlord should give away his land. Was a landlord to have his estate destroyed? There were both sides to the question. There should be fairness between man and man—(hear, hear)—but dues not exceeding 1-18th, and he

should say it was to the interest of every landlord in the county to grant those leases upon as liberal terms as possible, because he believed, having lived 60 years in the world, that liberality in such matters was likely to redound to the prosperity of the lord himself. Let them allow him to tender his congratulations on the state of East Pool. He was very pleased indeed with the report. He had a large interest there, to which he intended to stick. (Hear, hear.) The discussion here ceased.

TREBARTHA LEMARNE MINE.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the Purser's Office, Plymouth, on the 8th inst., Mr. E. JAMES presiding. The following report was read from Captain Temby:—"I beg to hand you the following report for the meeting to be held to-day. Since the last general meeting we have driven the 10 fm. level west 13 fms. 1 ft., and communicated with Rodd's shaft; the first 7 fm. of this drive the lode continued to be of the same size, value, and character as the previous 30 fm. driven, varying from 2 to 6 ft. wide. This end is driven west of Rodd's shaft 6 fm. 4 ft. In this drive we met with a cross branch composed chiefly of sulphur mundic; west of this branch and south of the lode we reached the granite. The lode is now between the granite and killas. Since leaving the branch the lode became more capely, and less mundic, and much richer for tin; the lode now is 20 inches wide, and worth 15% per fathom. Since the communication was made Rodd's shaft has been timbered down, and made good to the 10 fm. level, and sunk 5 ft. below this point. The lode here is 3 ft. wide, and is about the same value as the end, 15% per fathom. Last week I put a pair of men to open east of Kempthorne's shaft, the lode here appears to be forming itself against the hanging wall, and I think a few fathoms driving will open out equal to the lode driven throughout the western side of the shaft. At surface we have taken out ground and built balance bob pit, and last week fixed the bob and connected it, which has relieved the water-wheel very much, and caused the stamps to work much more regular. We have only been stamping the stuff broken from the end and shaft, and the pile of whits has now accumulated to 84 tons, ready for burning. The most tinny part of the lode has been picked to itself, and is still on the floors ready for stamping—about 50 tons. We have complied with Mr. Rodd's wishes and have covered the lead through the park 62 fm. 3 ft. The notice convening the meeting was then read. The accounts for the past two months showed a balance due from the purser of 827.4s. 10d., and Mr. J. B. JAMES having reported that he had audited the accounts presented at the last meeting, they were passed. The item of merchants' bills comprised a new boring machine. It was then resolved, first, that the company open an account with the Commercial Bank of Cornwall (Limited), and that the committee be authorised to overdraw to the extent of 500l.; all cheques to be signed by two members of the committee, and countersigned by the purser. That Capt. Bishop, of East Pool, be requested to visit the mine, and advise what erections are necessary for returning the produce, and furnish plans and estimates for that purpose, but in case Capt. Bishop should refuse that the committee shall be at liberty to engage the services of any other competent man. That the necessary steps be taken at once to convert this company into a Limited Liability company, such conversion to take effect as early as possible. That a call of 6d. per share be made, payable to the bankers of the company within 21 days, with the usual discount of 5 per cent., if paid within that time. That a general meeting be held on the 13th August next at the purser's office. That the future accounts be presented classified under different heads, such heads to be determined by the company, and that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Chairman for his courteous conduct in the chair.

SOUTH TOLCARNE MINE.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Windsor Chambers, Great St. Helens, on Wednesday, Mr. C. CLARK presiding.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the CHAIRMAN read the statement of accounts, and also the report of Capt. Jennings.

The CHAIRMAN said the balance against the mine brought forward was 2318l. 7s. 9d., but this balance was now increased to 3589l. 11s. 2d. As regarded arrears of call, 613l. 15s., the committee of management wished to know the views of the meeting as to what should be done. The committee were very reluctant to summon any shareholder, but really so much indulgence had been shown that there appeared to be no alternative. With regard to the accounts he did not think he need make any remarks, and before any questions were put to Capt. Jennings, he thought he might as well formally propose that the report and accounts be passed and printed and circulated among the shareholders. He thought he might do so with confidence because the accounts showed that the result of the last four months' operations compared exactly with the estimates laid before the former meeting in March, and with the promises then held out. It would be in their recollection that the committee recommended in March, and the shareholders sanctioned, that work should be continued at the following points:—The 80 fm. cross-cut south to cut the flat lode; 70 fathom level east on flat lode, to be driven vigorously; the 80, 70, and 60 fathom levels west to be driven on Fraser's lode; the 46 fathom level, east on the gossan lode, and 36 fathom level cross-cut south on the gossan lode. It was stated in Capt. Jennings's report that the estimated cost was about 400l. per month, and the estimated yield about 150l. The loss on the working was calculated at 250l. a month, or 1000l. for the four months. They would see that the actual loss on working had been 1039l., thus coming as near as possible to the estimate in working a mine. (Hear, hear.) This fact was encouraging, as it enabled them to put faith in Capt. Jennings's estimates. The result of the working had been that it was not considered desirable to continue working the 80 east on flat lode. At all the other points the results of the working were encouraging, and there was not one among them which any competent person who had seen the mine would recommend it to be abandoned, if the shareholders were willing to incur the necessary call. It was for the shareholders to decide. The committee were in favour of adopting the suggestions made by Capt. Jennings, and they recommended that working should be continued at the 70 east on flat lode; 24 east on Taylor's tin lode; 46 east on gossan lode; 36 cross-cut east and west on the gossan lode. Mr. Bowden had been requested to visit the mine, inspect it, and report upon it, and he would, no doubt, be ready to give any information that might be required. He would ask the meeting to adopt the resolution he had proposed. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. MACKINTOSH seconded the proposition. He said he regretted that, to a certain extent, unsatisfactory condition of affairs, especially in respect to the financial position. He thought they should carry out what Capt. Jennings proposed. He thought it was satisfactory that the estimated expense of the working during the last four months had proved so correct. There was only a difference of about 30% between the estimate and the actual cost. As regarded making a call he was afraid they had no other resource. He was an original shareholder, and he did not despair of the mine producing satisfactory results.

Mr. BAWDEN, in reply to Mr. BURCH, said he did not know that he had much to add to the report which he had already presented. If there were any reasonable terms by which they could secure the western ground for the South Tolcarne he thought that ground should be tried. The western ground had been well spoken of, and he had no doubt from what he had heard in the district that should that ground be secured to the South Tolcarne, those who had relinquished their shares would withdraw from that relinquishment. But on no condition would he go on the western ground to lay it open for any other company. He did not see why they should lay open ground for other people to work. From conversation he had had with Capt. Jennings he thought the mine was now in a better condition than when he visited it. Capt. Jennings then told him that he had never seen it look poorer. Well, he thought they could explore their property at a very small cost, and he would advise a turning round at the 36 fm., and driving to the west. Capt. Jennings had been driving east, where they were within 50 fms. of their boundaries. He thought they should go back to the western por-

tion, and if they made a discovery it would be more in the centre of their property. With regard to the Taylor's lode it appeared to him there should be some good discoveries in that district. If some arrangement could be made for the western ground it should be done. In the course of some conversation he had with Capt. Rich, that gentleman seemed to form an idea of taking off the western part of South Tolcarne and making a separate set of it entirely. If that could be done he did not see that their expenses need be increased very much, and another company might be formed to work the west side. They had a prospect of making some good discoveries on the western ground. But there was nothing in sight at present; they had made no discoveries as yet. The farthest distance they had driven west was 10 fms., and they had broken ground in three levels. They might offer their sett to the South Condurrow to work it for them. He could not advise them to open ground on the present terms offered them.

Mr. BURCH thought as a body of adventurers they were under great obligations to Mr. Bawden for the services he had rendered them. For himself he thought he, for the first time, now realised something like their real position. He was fully sensible that they were in debt, but he did not understand what their prospects were. He wished to know whether the item of arrears of calls on 40 shares irrecoverable 55l. was a bad debt?—The CHAIRMAN replied that it was a bad debt, and the adventures were two young ladies under age, who ought never to have been on the register at all.

Mr. BURCH said the Chairman did not make any statement as to the amount of the call.

The CHAIRMAN replied that there would be a separate resolution on that point. He thought the view of the committee was that there should be a call of 1l. per share, the payments being made as easy as they could be. The number of shares then on the register was 2867, of which 50 were a bad debt. In March last there were 3597, but since then 730 shares had been relinquished.

Mr. BURCH said it seemed that they were in debt a sum of 3600l., which a questionable asset might make 4000l. Their debts were estimated at the last meeting at 1l. a share, but now they were up to about 2l. a share. He thought that was a fact they should have before them when they were thinking of making another call. He should like to know what would be the actual cost at which the sett could be maintained, regardless of any attempt to make it particularly productive—simply with the object of keeping it alive. That was an important point in the minds of many adventurers. He hoped, however, there were none of them in favour of abandoning the property.

Mr. BAWDEN, in reply to Mr. BURCH's question, said the costs would be 150l. a month. For this they could keep the mine free from water, and about six hands who would be required. These men would do some work, and they might make a discovery of tin. They had good neighbours to the east. There was no mine to the west, but Capt. Thomas and other miners in the district spoke of the western ground as very valuable, and this company had a good chance then if they could get it. But he advised them to hold their hand until they could get better terms. This ground was bound to be worked either by South Condurrow alone, or conjointly with South Condurrow or by South Tolcarne alone.

Capt. JENNINGS thought they should go on working four months longer, and by that time he thought there would be some encouraging result.

Mr. WYSE remarked that in his expectations Capt. Jennings had been hitherto grievously disappointed.

Mr. BAWDEN could not but think some good results might follow from working this mine longer. He could not advise them to abandon it. If many more of the shareholders were to relinquish the thing would close itself.

The resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts was then put and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that a call be made of 20s. per share, payable as follows:—10s. on 1st September; 5s. on 1st October, and 5s. on 2nd November.—Mr. WYSE seconded, the resolution was carried.

Mr. BURCH had much pleasure in proposing the re-appointment of the committee of management, but he thought they should be instructed to abandon all negotiations with the committees of the neighbouring setts.—Mr. WYSE seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

The appointment by the committee of Mr. Bawden as local purser and adviser of the mine was confirmed.

The proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

SOUTHERN INDIA ALPHA GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Queen Victoria-street, on Tuesday,

Mr. A. FORRESTER BROWN, the Chairman, presiding.

Mr. EDWIN J. HONYCHURCH (the secretary) read the notice calling the meeting. The report and accounts were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN said the shareholders would have seen from the reports which had been issued in February last what Mr. McAlpine had said with regard to the property, and they had also had Mr. Charleton's reports, and later reports which the directors had received with respect to the property were set out in the directors' report. Referring to operations at the mine, he said that the Skull reef had given the best results. Wright's level, which for a long time was supposed to be the best in the Wynaad, had not, according to the engineers on the spot, yielded so well as was anticipated, and therefore the operations had been chiefly carried on on the Skull reef, and according to the last report it was expected that, when they got deeper, they would reach richer quartz than they had before. They must, therefore, wait to see what the results would be, and in the meantime we have arranged to do what our engineer recommended—to carry on the mines under the agreement made in 1880, and which is still in force. I do not know that I have any more information to give you. We have endeavoured, of course, to carry on the work here at as small an expense as possible. We made an agreement two or three years ago for the office work to be done at a cost of 200l. a year, inclusive of the cost of secretary and clerk, and everything else, but now considering that we have very little work going on we have decided on the expiry of the agreement that it may be done at a lower cost, and accordingly we have consulted Mr. Honychurch, who has agreed to do the work for 50l. Of course, if there is any active work to be done we shall have to increase the amount, for the 50l. is only paid for taking care of the books and routine work, and it would not be sufficient remuneration if there is any active work. The directors hope they will have reason to raise the remuneration. In conclusion the Chairman moved the adoption of the report and audited balance-sheet.—Mr. JOHN SHAW seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

On the motion of Mr. WHITE, seconded by a SHAREHOLDER, the auditors, Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths, and Co., were re-elected at a remuneration of five guineas.

The CHAIRMAN said the remuneration was formally 15 guineas, but the auditors had liberally made a reduction in the amount.

A SHAREHOLDER asked whether the Chairman could name any time when the shareholders might expect results?

The CHAIRMAN said he could not. Mr. McAlpine was on the spot, and he was a gentleman in whom the directors had confidence, as he had had much experience in gold mining, and the directors would be practically guided by what they heard from him.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to a question, said the expenses were about 40l. a year for rent of the mine, which must be paid as long as they kept the property. The other expenses were about 70l. a year, making together 110l. or 120l. a year. He mentioned that the balance of cash now in hand was 560l. He added that this was not an unfavourable position for the company to be in as the property was being developed without cost to the shareholders, and they would benefit also by any discovery in the adjacent mines.

A resolution was then passed authorising the payment of 2 guineas per attendance to the directors, in addition to 2 guineas to the Chairman.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

WHEEL CREBOR MINE.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Gracechurch Buildings, Gracechurch-street, yesterday, Mr. J. Y. WATSON, F.G.S., in the chair.

Mr. C. B. PARRY (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the preceding meeting, which were confirmed.

The following is the agents' report, dated the 13th inst.:-
We beg to submit to you our report for the general meeting to be held on the 17th inst., showing the present and future prospects of the mine. Since the last meeting the 156 fathom level has been driven 10 fathoms west of new shaft, the lode contains a little mundic, but not to value; the ground has a very kindly appearance for the production of mineral, which we anticipate is still in advance. Our progress at this point has been impeded in consequence of the clearing out of the Tavistock canal. We have suspended the end, and put the men to rise in the back to communicate with the winze sunk in the bottom of the 144. The lode in the rise is 4 ft. wide, and has a very kindly appearance, containing capel and spar intermixed with arsenical mundic.—144 East of New Shaft: Here we have driven through a strong and masterly lode, containing good arsenical mundic to the value of 3 tons per fathom; also the lode contained some good stones of copper ore. At present the lode is over 4 ft. wide, containing a little mundic, but not to value. The 144 is driven about 55 fathoms west of new shaft, leaving 25 to reach the winze sunk in the bottom of the 120 fathom level in what is termed Goldworthy's bunch of ore. As before stated, we have driven through a fine course of ore at this level (144 west), which is going down in the bottom; also the lode in the end is small, at present yielding 1 ton of copper ore per fm., but the character of the ground as a mineral-bearing agent continues the same in appearance as when driving the best part of the lode. We shall force on this interesting point with as little delay as possible. At the 108, east of new shaft, we have put out a cross-cut south 5 fms. 5 ft. There is nothing in the character of the ground to continue the driving, therefore we have resumed the end, driving east as before. The lode contains spar intermixed with white iron. Having communicated the rise in the back of 72 to the winze sunk in bottom of the 48, we have resumed the drive of the 72 east of new shaft by the side of the lode, the part of the lode carried contains a little mundic. We are putting out a cross cut at the 48 east of new shaft. The men are engaged in putting in a stall in the back of the 48 east of new shaft preparatory to the resuming of the stope. Our stopping ground throughout the mine will yield in the aggregate 45 tons of copper ore, and 22 tons of mundic per fathom. Our sampling will be on the 31st inst., when we expect to sample 500 tons of copper ore.—HENRY PHILLIPS, P. D. HOLMAN.

The CHAIRMAN said: The accounts now laid before the meeting complete the financial year of 13 months, and embrace five months' costs, which are charged against only four months' sales of ore. The copper ore sold, amounting to 1004 tons, realised 2977l. 10s., and the five months' costs, including rent and dues, and new shaft account, amount to 3771l. 4s. 6d., leaving a surplus asset on the four months of 206l. 5s. 6d. To this surplus has to be added 400l., the amount reserved during the previous eight months towards the 13th month's cost, and 11l. 8s. 8d. received for discounts, which sums increase the net profit for the four months to 617l. 7s. 2d. The profit cannot be deemed otherwise than most satisfactory, considering that the ores were sold during a period when copper was lower in price than has ever been known before. The committee have great pleasure in recommending that a dividend of 1s. per share be paid forthwith, by which the balance of assets over liabilities will be reduced from 2711l. 0s. 2d. (the amount it stands at in the accounts now rendered) to 2111l. 0s. 2d., which will be carried forward to the next four monthly accounts. No sales of mundic have been made during the past four months in consequence of the price obtainable being unsatisfactory, therefore the committee have determined to await the completion of some arsenic works which are being erected near the mine, when they hope to be able to sell to an advantage the stock of mundic now on hand, which is of the estimated value of about 1000l. The cost having been charged upon it, the amount it realises will be all profit less the dues payable thereon. The committee regret that the bottom levels of the mine have not yet opened out bodies of ore equalling in productiveness those in the levels above, but they believe and hope the disappointment is only temporary, and that an early improvement may be expected, the appearance of the lode and country rock being highly encouraging. It should be remembered that the 156, or bottom level west, is still behind where the richest ore was found in the 144, and the 144 west has still to be driven 25 fms. before getting under the rich ore which was found in Goldworthy's bunch in the level above. All things considered we may congratulate ourselves that with the present price of copper we are almost the only copper mine making profits, and we hope four months hence to show even a better profit than the present.

Mr. MOSES BAWDEN (the purser) pointed out that they were now getting near where they had the richest part of the lode in the 144 level. A winze had been commenced in the bottom of the 144, but it was still full of water. He believed they would soon get into ore in this direction.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the accounts and the agents' report.—Mr. J. SCHOFIELD seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the payment of a dividend of 1s. per share, payable on the 23rd inst.—Mr. SCHOFIELD seconded the proposition, which was also adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said it would be seen that they were going to sample 500 tons of ore next time.

Mr. BAWDEN said he was very pleased to be associated, as purser and as a small shareholder, with about the only British copper mine which was now able to pay a dividend. The dividend had been fairly earned, and every bill was charged up to the latest possible date. With regard to the mine, he had great hopes that before the next meeting the agents would be able to report another discovery of ore in the 156 fm. level. Since the last meeting they had communicated the rise from the 48 to the 72 fm. level, the ore ground passed through varying in value from 3 to 8 tons per fathom, and he felt certain that the rise had laid open many hundreds of tons of ore to come away at a profit to the company. He had great faith in the eastern part of the mine. There had not been a pick put into the ground from the 48 to surface, which would give them at least 64 fms. to take away, and it was to be remembered that the mine had paid thousands of pounds in dividends from the shallow levels. Mr. Bawden, in the course of a few general observations, advised that arrangements should be made, if possible, for conveying the ore from the mine to the quay by means of the canal, which would enable them to save half the present cost of carriage.

Mr. SCHOFIELD pointed out that the profit had been made despite the fact that the prices realised for the ore were the lowest on record. He believed, however, that copper would rise in price, and, if so, a very small advance would enable Wheel Crebor to double the present rate of dividend. They had at least 1000l. worth of mundic on the mine; but they would not sell it until they could get a fair price for it.

Mr. PETER WATSON congratulated the committee on the present position of the mine, and on their ability to pay a dividend. The mundic was not credited in the accounts, but if it were sold it ought to give them a 2s. dividend. The mundic ought to bring 1l. a ton all round. There was one matter which he would impress on the committee, and that was to endeavour to get rid of the present system of selling the ores. The existing ticketings were a perfect farce, and the sooner the producers joined together to put an end to the one-sided arrangement the better it would be for them. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN said the committee were quite agreed that the present ticketing system was unsatisfactory, and that it should be remedied; but the difficulty was how the remedy was to be brought about.

After a little further general conversation the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and committee of management.

MINES AND MINERALS BLUE-BOOK.

In last year's reports of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Mines for the United Kingdom, embodied in a Blue-book and issued from the Home Office, we find from the statistics one significant fact. It is this—that there was depression in 1884 in most industries. In our last issue we cited statistics sufficiently freely, and it is simply our purpose here to indicate as briefly as we can the principal industries of the three countries in which there has been dulness, depression, or otherwise. Elaborate figures are first given in this voluminous book as to production in mines under the Coal Mines Act. We are at once struck here with the peculiar fact that while the persons employed last year were considerably in excess of the number for 1883 the mineral wrought in the last-named year were several million tons ahead of the produce of last year. There was a falling off in 1884 of some 3,000,000 tons in coal. In the last-named year no fewer than 150 mines were thrown idle. We are glad to notice, however, in connection with the mines under the Coal Mines Act that comparing the persons employed not nearly as many employees lost their lives last year as in the preceding year. The ratio of deaths through accident was for 1884 1·768 per 1000, against 2·017 in the preceding year. This is a very material decrease, and we can but express the hope and we doubt not this question receives the most careful consideration, the deepest thought on the part of many eminent men—that as time progresses the ratio of deaths through accidents in coal mining will be steadily, materially reduced. It is apparent that very close attention is desired in respect of the falls that take place in these mines, for we observe that the deaths from this cause are numerous; and we scarcely need emphasise the clear circumstance that every precaution should be adopted in this matter. Fire-damp explosions were last year most destructive, though not so calamitous as in the previous year. Yet we cannot conceal from ourselves this—that more steps are necessary, greater vigilance is requisite in regard to these sad occurrences. Sir HUMPHRY DAVY has done much, but the action of Mr. ELLIS LEVER demonstrates that many able men believe improvements are possible—improvements that would have the effect of lessening the terrible loss of life that yearly takes place in coal mines. In metalliferous mines, also, there was last year a great proportion of fatal accidents from falls, and in these mines, as in coal mines, strict care should be bestowed on the underground workings. While it is conceded that in most cases the falls are unlooked for, yet it has been found before to-day that certain accidents, lamentable in their results, might have been foreseen. Even in metalliferous mines, however, the accidents terminating fatally in reference to falls were fewer than in 1883. The copper treated last year was about the same quantity treated in the previous year, but the ironstone and ironstone ore show an important decline, both in the production for the United Kingdom and in the imports from foreign countries. In pig-iron made there was an appreciable reduction; in the export and value of iron and steel there was also a considerable decrease in 1883. Then in Bessemer steel ingots made in Great Britain last year there was a marked falling off, some 250,000 tons. So far as open-hearth steel, made in the United Kingdom, is concerned there was last year an improvement, and in steel and ingot iron, manufactured by the Thomas-Gilchrist process, there was last year a pleasing increase. There was, too, a gratifying improvement in the exports of tin-plates. A larger quantity of iron pyrites was imported last year than in 1883, but the value was not so great. In the metal extracted from burnt cupreous pyrites in 1884 there is a reduction all round on the year prior. There was last year an increase in the supplies of lead. Manganese ore imported in 1883 was of greater value than the ore landed in home ports in 1884. Phosphate of lime imported is shown as having considerably fallen off. The production of rock-salt last year declined to a serious extent. In roofing-slates exported the increase for 1884 was most marked; and there was a slight increase in the production of tin in the mines of Devon and Cornwall. The value of tin imports is given as far below that for the two previous years, while the quantity is much less. Cornish mining being specially interesting, we give the following extract from Mr. FRECHEVILLE's report for this county and Devon, Somerset, and part of Dorset:—

I have again to chronicle a serious diminution in the number of persons employed in mining in my district. Compared with 1883, there is a decrease of 1839 persons, or 10·92 per cent.; and compared with 1882, a decrease of 3755 persons, or over 20 per cent. This clearly indicates the general depression prevailing, which is entirely the result of the continued low price of metals, and is in no way to be attributed to any falling off in the producing capacity of the mines; in fact, so far as tin is concerned, the output has been larger than during any one of the last ten years; thus showing that the mineral resources of Cornwall are by no means exhausted, and that this county is not likely to yield up its position as one of the principal tin-producing districts of the world. Since the close of the year 1831 the tin standards have dropped steadily until the present low price has been reached. Many mines consequently have been abandoned, or have suspended operations; nevertheless, the total production of tin, owing to the increased output of the larger mines, has been considerably augmented. Many important discoveries have been made during the year, so that the present rate of production is likely to be maintained, and with a better price for tin a period of prosperity would at once be entered into. From reliable reports it seems that the foreign tin mines are even less able than our own to stand the strain of low prices; a fact which augurs well for the future of the industry in Cornwall.

In conclusion, we may remark that since Mr. Frecheville's penned these words comparative prosperity has come. The price realised for tin is now such that many mines that were before struggling will be able in the coming meetings to show a satisfactory position.

A NEW CALIFORNIAN GOLD FIELD.

The Shasta County Democrat writes:—Heretofore we have made mention of the discovery of rich gold quartz by Peter Schearer and George Rattler on Salt Creek, on the former's patented land. When the strike was first made it created considerable excitement in town. They sunk a shaft about 18 ft. deep, took out considerable gold, and then ceased work for awhile. About a week ago work was commenced again. Last Wednesday the pay increased, they taking out on that day \$200 in one pan. Since the pay has been getting better, and Mr. Schearer, who is no miner, informs us that he has taken out chunks of gold as big as a man's hand, one piece weighing over \$500. Since Wednesday last we are informed they have panned out over \$2000, besides taking out rock that is more or less yellow with gold. Probably it is the richest quartz gold deposit ever discovered in this part of the State. Mr. Schearer says \$100,000 will not buy the property. Several old miners have visited it during the past few days, and say it is the richest thing they have ever seen in all their mining experience. Small nuggets of gold can be cut from the rock with a chisel or knife. At the bottom of the shaft one can see the "yellow truck" sticking to the rock in strings and blotches. It will cure sore eyes to look at it. This nice "nest egg" is only three miles from Redding.

LEAD ORES.

Date.	Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
July 14	Lishorne—Hogfawr	40	£ 9 5 6	Sheldon, Bush, & Co.
	ditto—Glogfawr	40	8 8 6	Walker, Parker, & Co.
	—Glogfawr	16	7 5 6	Panther Lead Co.
	—East Daren	20	11 8 0	Sheldon, Bush, & Co.
	—Central Foxdale	35	12 12 0	Weston, Son, and Co.
18	—Hunan Gravel	50	8 7 6	Adam Eytton.
	ditto	50	8 5 6	Quirk, Barton, and Co.

BLACK TIN.

Date.	Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
July 13	Phonix United	27	£ 53 10 0	Tamar Company.

PREFERENTIAL RAILWAY RATES.

A great amount of interest in Yorkshire and the North of England more especially, is now being evinced with respect to the action taken by Messrs. WILSON, SONS, and Co., the well-known steamship owners of Hull, to compel the North-Eastern and some other railway companies to reduce their carriage rates between Hull and other parts of the kingdom. The companies in their charges for the conveyance of goods to and from Hull have ignored distance and geographical position, greatly, of course, to the advantage of places many miles to the north of the leading Humber port. By this undue preference to the more northern ports, Hull is deprived of the advantage of its geographical position, to the benefit of the shipowners of Newcastle, Hartlepool, and Sunderland. A great deal of timber is imported into Hull from Norway in particular, and also into the northern ports, for mining and general purposes, and the rate for the carriage of timber and deals from that port to Leeds, a distance of 51 miles, is 7s. 11d., whilst from West Hartlepool to Leeds, a distance of 72 miles, the charge is exactly the same. The docks at Hartlepool, it may be said, belong to the North-Eastern Company, as is the Newcastle Tyne Dock, and from this latter timber is also carried at the same rate, although the distance is 93 miles. What applied to Leeds in connection with the ports named applied equally to Manchester, Birmingham, Leicester, and other large towns. The Messrs. Wilson contend that this state of things should no longer be allowed, and invoke the aid of the Railway Commissioners to compel the North Eastern and the other railways connected with it in the carriage of goods to and from the inland districts, to reduce their rates accordingly, so that the difference in the charges shall not be so high as it is in proportion to the distances. On the subject of these anomalies in the charges made by the railway companies for long distances and short distances we may say that a great deal of evidence was taken by the last Railway Commission of the House of Commons; but the witnesses on the part of the companies, whilst admitting the marked inequalities which existed, held that the companies should have entire freedom in the matter so long as they did not exceed their legal powers. Mr. TENNANT, of the London and North-Eastern Railway in his evidence said that—"From my experience I say that the anomalies which are spoken of as being so annoying are used simply as leverage to get the actual charges reduced somewhere else, and that if the anomalies were done away with, and the rates raised in consequence, my experience would lead me to the conclusion that that course would lead to great and serious dissatisfaction." This no doubt would be the case so far as the favoured parties were concerned, but that does not make the charges equitable to anything like the extent they should be, and there is every reason to believe that the Railway Commissioners will consider that the element of distance is one that the railway companies cannot be allowed to entirely ignore in the fixing of carriage rates, especially from and to ports in which there is no competing lines. But Mr. TENNANT considered that the admitted anomaly was defensible, and could only be corrected by going back to the question of equal mileage rates, for if the long distance, he said, were to be cheaper for proportionally the same rate as for the shorter one the effect would be to drive trade off the railway altogether. But this view is not entertained by the public, Chambers of Trade and Agriculture, Town Councils, and other bodies; but just the reverse, for it cannot be looked upon as fair from any point of view to make the same charge for carrying 93 miles as for carrying 51. There certainly does not appear to be any reason why some towns and ports should be heavily handicapped by railway companies having a monopoly of the carrying power in favour of others in which they have a greater pecuniary interest. This the companies have done in various ways in their differential charges, preferential dealing, and what Mr. HORROCKS properly terms the preference of towns, making long and short distances alike. The case promises to be one of the most important that the Railway Commissioners have yet had put before them, the particulars having already been handed in on the part of Messrs. WILSON, SONS, and Co., and the answers on the part of the companies ordered to be filed on the 9th of July, whilst the hearing is expected to take place during the present month. There is expected to be a great array of the ablest counsel at the Bar, so many interests being involved; indeed, in addition to the railway companies, the officials connected with the Northern ports will also be represented, and have already taken action in the matter. The River Tyne Improvement Commissioners, at a recent meeting, have prepared a memorial to the Railway Commissioners asking them to dismiss the application of Messrs. WILSON on the ground that no undue or unreasonable preference is given to the traders who convey traffic between Newcastle, Sunderland, and Hartlepool, and the Norwegian ports and other places by the railway companies. The Parliamentary Committee of the Sunderland Town Council have requested the Chamber of Commerce to receive a deputation so that joint action should be taken in the matter, and that the necessary information be obtained from Newcastle and other places, the same to be reported to an adjourned meeting. The Tynemouth Town Council and the Hartlepool Chamber of Commerce are also up in arms, and are determined to oppose the application made by the Hull firm, but on what ground their opposition will be based has not as yet transpired. But the fight on the part of the railway companies, backed up as they will be by the Great Northern ports, promises to be one of the fiercest on record, and the result is being looked forward to with the liveliest interest by traders in all parts of the country, and by none more so than those connected with the mining interest, especially that of the West Riding, Derbyshire, Lancashire, &c.

FAILURE IN THE COAL TRADE.—On Monday, at the office of Mr. E. G. Clarke, official receiver, Bristol, there was a meeting of the creditors of Mr. Alexander Hamilton Syngue, proprietor of the Pennywell Road Colliery, Bristol. Mr. G. Brittan appeared for the petitioning creditor, Mr. D. Johnstone for Mr. Williams, a creditor; and Mr. Credson (Press, Inskip, and Credson) appeared for the debtor.—The official receiver stated that the accounts of the debtor were not yet prepared, as they were of a complicated character. He read a letter from Mr. J. S. Merton, solicitor, of London, who referred to the account between the debtor and Mr. Benn Davis, solicitor, London, and said that it was very complicated, and he would not be prepared with his proof. He therefore, consented to an adjournment for 14 days. Mr. Davis would be a creditor for an amount close upon 30,000l. Mr. Tryon, accountant, who had been appointed to assist the debtor in preparing his statement, said the debtor had a rental of 1600l. or 1700l. a year in Ireland, and there were mortgages thereon of about 24,000l., and a charge of 200l. per annum. There was a reversion of 3000l. or 4000l. a year, with 7000l. borrowed on it, and there was a life policy of 23,000l.—The official receiver said it might be interesting, but of no actual value at present, to have this statement, as these figures depended upon one another so much.—Mr. Tryon observed that it was impossible to give any reliable information unless they had the proof of Benn Davis's claim.—The proceedings were then adjourned till the 23rd inst., in order to allow of the statement being prepared.

OREL Tor and Coteholo Mines started in 40,000l., and Whee Hony and Trelawny Mines, also limited, are to be sold. North Metal is also advertised for sale.

THE AMERICAN METAL MARKET

Cuiabá: 1350 tons stamped; yield 1·4 oit. per ton.

BRITISH MINES.

C. PASS AND SON, BRISTOL,

ARE BUYERS OF
LEAD ASHES, SULPHATE OF LEAD, LEAD SLAGS,
ANTIMONIAL LEAD, COPPER MATTE, TIN ASHES, &c.
and DROSS or ORES containing
COPPER, LEAD, AND ANTIMONY.

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26, CHAPEL STREET, LIVERPOOL,
HANDLES
MANGANESE, BARYTES, SPARS, and ALL ORES on SALE
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NICKEL AND COBALT REFINERS.
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ARE BUYERS OF
LEAD ASHES, SULPHATE OF LEAD, LEAD SLAGS, &c.,
AND DROSS OR ORES CONTAINING LEAD.

ESTABLISHED 1866.—THIRTEEN YEARS IN CORNWALL.

SAMUEL JAMES,

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14, ANGEL COURT, LONDON, E.C.
Member of the Redruth Mining Exchange.

Those who wish to buy or sell any mining shares should consult Mr. JAMES. Mr. J. devotes his entire attention to home and foreign mines, and places his special information at the disposal of his clients. That mining offers undoubted advantages for quick returns no one can deny. Look at the enormous sums of money paid in dividends by home and foreign mines. A large number of wealthy families owe their present proud positions to adventuring in LEGITIMATE MINES. With a better price for metals many of the smaller priced shares would immediately advance some hundreds per cent.

NEW RUBIES SHOULD BE BOUGHT AT ONCE.

There are many mines worth attention, as proceedings of recent shareholders' meetings prove beyond doubt. During the last 40 years there has not such opportunity presented itself as the present for investment in British mines. Metals are certain to advance. In well-informed circles no doubt is entertained on this point. Buyers must not further delay orders.
See Selected List published by S. JAMES, 14, Angel-court, London, E.C.

SPECIAL BUSINESS in the following or part:—

25 Bedford United, 15s	200 West Phoenix, 1s	20 Montana, 37s. 6d.
25 Carn Camborne, 3s.	10 Wheal Bassett, £3 1/2.	50 Mysore Gold, 27s.
10 Devon Con., £2 1/2.	10 Wheal Crebor, 21s.	100 Nacupai, 1s. 3d.
200 Devon Friendship, 6d.	30 Asia Minor, 3s.	25 New Emma, 9s.
50 Drakeville, 3s. 9d.	50 Akankoo (f.p.), 3s. 6d.	100 New Callao, 3s. 3d.
20 East Blue Hills, 35s.	250 Balkis, 1s.	100 Nouveau Monde, 1s.
20 Ecton, 19s.	30 Bratsberg, 17s. 6d.	50 Nundydoo, 8s. 6d.
100 East Wh. Rose, 3s.	250 Carago, 3s. 3d.	50 Nine Reefs, fully paid, 3s. 3d.
20 Frongoch, 7s.	10 Copiapo, 45s.	50 Oscar Gold, 10s. 6d.
10 Great Laxey, £10.	50 Canada Copper, 3s.	25 Organo, 8s.
25 Gunnislake (Oilt.), 6s.	100 California Gold, 2s. 9	50 Orita, 15s. 6d.
20 Great Holway, 100	100 Callao Bis, 6s. 6d.	100 Pestana, 1s. 3d.
100 Home Mines Ltd., 14s.	200 Chile (New), 17s. pd.	100 Potosi, New, 4s. 3d.
25 Killfith, 13s.	2s. 9d.	50 Port Phillip, 2s. 3d.
20 Kitty St. Agnes, 13s. 9	45 Chontales, 2s. 6d.	10 Pannicillo, £2 5s. 6d.
25 Leadhills, 35s. 6d.	100 Colombian Hyd., 10s	100 Ruby, 4s. 3d.
20 Mounts Bay, 1s. 3d.	500 Denver Gold, 9d.	20 Richmond, £3 2s. 6d.
20 New Kitter, 12s.	50 Eberhardt, 4s. 6d.	20 Rio Tinto, £10 5s.
50 New Wt. Caradon, 3s. 9	3 El Callao, £40.	15 Schwab's Gully, £3 2s.
60 Old Shepherds, 3s.	30 Frontino, 13s.	20 Silver Queen.
20 Phoenix United, 20s. 3	100 Glenrock, 3s. 6d.	125 Spitskop, 6s.
20 Polberro, 40s.	100 Glen Coast, 2s.	60 Tacuab, 1s. 9d.
50 Prince of Wales, 2s. 6d	95 Hoover Hill, 7s.	50 Tocopilla, 2s. 6d.
90 Parys Copper, 6d.	100 Indian Consol., 3s. 6d	12 Tollima, £3 12s. 6d.
20 Roman Gravel, £4 15	50 Javali, 3s.	100 Transvaal Gold, 2s.
50 South Caradon, 5s. 6d	100 Kohinoor B, 2s. 6d.	50 Tambacherry, 4s. 6d.
20 So. Condurrow, £7 2s	100 Kapanga, 3d.	50 U. Mexican, £3 1s. 3d.
20 South Darren, 7s. 3d.	100 La Plata, 4s. 6d.	50 Victoria Gold, 3s. 6d.
10 South Frances, 4s.	100 Lisbon-Berlyn, 1s. 6	100 West Callao, 2s.
50 Treavean, 2s. 6d.	10 La Trinidad, £4 2s. 6	
25 Trevaunance, 33s.	20 Mason-Barry, £9 1s. 9d	
20 Van, 31s.		
10 West Kitter, £7 1/2.		

* S. JAMES can buy or sell any of the above shares. Correspondence invited. Trustees, executors, and others will find their duties considerably lightened by submitting schedule of shares held to Mr. JAMES, who will return the same by next post with market values attached.
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MR. W. MARLBOROUGH, STOCK AND SHARE DEALER

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100 Almada, 2s.
75 Akankoo, 2s. 9d.
25 Bratsberg, 18s. 3d.
250 Balkis, 1s.
50 Colombian Hyd. 11s.
75 California Gold, 2s. 3
20 Callao Bis, 7s.
75 Chile Gold, 3s. 6d.
100 Chontales, 1s. 9d.
20 Colorado, £2 1/2.
50 Denver Gold, 9d.
20 Devon Con., £2 1/2.
50 Eberhardt, 4s. 6d.
25 East Blue Hills.
50 Frontino, 13s. 6d.
60 Glenrock, 3s. 6d.
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20 Ecton, 19s.
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THE MINING JOURNAL,

Railway and Commercial Gazette,

LONDON, JULY 18, 1885.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT IN MINES.

To avert calamities from explosions in coal mines, and to render the operations of miners safer, more agreeable, and more profitable, it is essential that advantage should be taken without loss of time of the electric light in mines. The ordinary dangers attendant on mining operations are quite sufficient without the danger from explosions being added, and the most of all to be dreaded. The discussion that has lately arisen on the question of lighting mines by electric light will, we hope, have the effect of bringing the question prominently under the notice of mineowners and the miners themselves, so that prejudice against improvements will not be allowed to stand in the way of a general introduction of electric light in mines wherever it is possible to use it to advantage. The *Times* and *Electrician* have published some interesting correspondence on electric light for mines, and as it is shown that it can be advantageously used for the purpose, we strongly urge and advocate its general adoption. Mr. Walker says:—"We have already introduced the electric light underground into two large collieries, and on the surface in several others, and in one of the former, at the time the lights were put in, they were placed in many situations where no naked lights were at the time allowed to be used, with very good results. We are now about to fit up a third colliery in the North, and there are others in other districts that have been lighted by other firms." What can be done in one colliery can be done in another, and the fact of the electric light being successfully used underground in a few mines already is in itself sufficient evidence of its adaptability for others, and there can be no tangible reason why this light should not be generally used. That there may be difficulty in getting an effective light into all the faces of the workings of a coal mine at the first introduction we can understand, but the inventive geni who have already brought this lighting to such perfection and practical utility will soon devise safe and practical means of overcoming any such obstacles as may at first present themselves. We agree with Mr. Walker in his belief that the future lighting of the face where men are working and constantly changing position will be by means of lamps attached to supply wires led to a convenient spot near at hand, and by means of properly constructed reflectors the light can be thrown forward to the face in any position required. Although it may be a question of a little time and a few experiments to demonstrate fully the most effective means of utilising the electric light underground, we can but hope that mineowners and miners generally will cordially render their support to its general introduction. The records of deaths from explosions are so extensive and fearful that it is the bounden duty of every intelligent miner to investigate the merits of electric lighting for mines, and to impress on the owners the desirability of its speedy introduction as a means to prevent the calamitous results arising from the frequent explosions we are too often called on to chronicle. If the good sense and self-interest of the mineowners and miners are not sufficient to bring about a speedy and general introduction of electric lighting for mines, and safer means for breaking down coal than by blasting, it is to be hoped that the Legislature will step in and compel the use of such scientific and practical improvements as have proved to be satisfactory, and thereby render the occupation of the miner less hazardous, more convenient and profitable than hitherto. When the working miner can be brought to recognise the fact that he can be supplied with a better and absolutely safer light than he has ever been accustomed to by merely attaching a couple of small wires to other wires near, and the other ends of these wires to his lamp, he will surely be ready to adopt and utilise the resources that science has placed before him for his use and benefit. The advantage of a brilliant light underground enables more work to be performed, and with greater ease, than can be done with a dismal light in a bad atmosphere, will be beneficial to individual miners as also to mineowners, and will make, we are sure, a material addition to the earnings and profits of all concerned.

HONOURS TO MINERS FOR BRAVERY.

It is proposed in Victoria in the future to recognise acts of bravery performed on the gold fields in rescuing miners in peril, by awarding to those who perform them a certificate signed by the political and permanent heads of the department. A form of certificate has accordingly been printed. It is headed by a picture showing the ordinary surface erections of a mine, and comprising a medallion in which a disabled miner just brought up from below is represented in the arms of a comrade, and a group of persons, including a woman, is rushing to render further assistance that may be possible. The certificate further bears the appropriate motto—*Macte Virtute*. This is an excellent example set by the Victorian authorities, and one which might be copied in England with advantage. The many daring and heroic deeds done by miners in rescuing their fellow men from disaster should receive some token of acknowledgment. What the Victoria Cross is to the brave soldier and sailor, a certificate of bravery would be to the miner, whether working for gold, silver, copper, lead, tin, or coal. As great calamities often attend the working of our coal measures a token of acknowledgment for brave acts done, in the form of a certificate, would be highly prized by those who so often risk their own lives in their endeavour to save the lives of others. There is no need of an incentive to induce the British miner to do his duty in time of danger any more than there is for the soldier or sailor; but the acts done by miners are mostly in the dark gloom of underground, with no excitement or halo of glory surrounding the action as in time of battle, and, therefore, the brave deeds of rescue so often done or attempted to be done in the dark bowels of the earth should receive some worthy State acknowledgment. The Board of Trade should take up this subject, and so let it be understood that in the future brave deeds done by our miners will not go unrewarded or unrecognised. The homes of many humble miners would thereby be adorned with a framed certificate that would be prized equally with the most treasured heirloom of gallant deeds by great warriors or statesmen.

MINE LEASE LEGISLATION.

Last week attention was called in these columns to the principles contained in Mr. CONYBEARE's draft Leases Bill. To-day we publish a letter from Mr. CONYBEARE dealing with our strictures against the proposed multiplication of concurrent jurisdiction by the creation of a new court outside the County and Stannaries Courts, and with certain reflections we thought fit to make on what appeared to us the confiscatory nature of the Bill. Our readers will judge whether the criticisms were merited. In these columns politics as politics find no place. Our objections to the Bill are substantiated by Mr. CONYBEARE's reply. His view seems to be that to work the mineral wealth of a country adventurer and lord are each equally entitled, especially the adventurer. Whatever be the French law on the subject it is not at present that of England, nor are we concerned to consider whether he should have boldly asserted in his Bill that they do things better in France. He complains that we call by the hard name "confiscation" his proposition to deprive the lord of his reversion, who, having been compelled by order of the Court to grant a lease for a term of years to a person who subsequently abandons it, fails to make an application to the Court within a limited time to declare and assert that which in the present state of our law no one would have dreamt of questioning, namely, that the lessor's reversion is in him. We regret that Mr. CONYBEARE has not thought fit to explain what he means by the term nation, in whom he would vest such reversions. He says he has not said a word about confiscating "without compensation." It is equally true that he has in no sense suggested compensation. He would suggest now that the rules of the House of Commons might, and probably would, provide for compensation to be paid to the owner on sale. Compensation for what? For by the terms of his Bill, before the Commission are to have the right of dealing with it in the public interest, the owner has been divested of his property, and the same has been vested in the Commission to hold the mine in trust, not to sell and apply the balance after satisfying such compensation as the owner may be entitled to, but merely and simply in trust "for the nation," and then forthwith to advertise it to be let for such terms, and on such conditions as may be sanctioned by the House of Commons. Our objections to the principles of the Bill are emphasised by Mr. CONYBEARE's letter. Legislation for mines to be of practical success and use, and to gain general sympathy, must proceed on English lines. So long as the present principles of law govern the land of our soil, on those principles must legislation be sought. It will be time enough to deal with mines from a nationalisation standard when such a principle has been discussed and adopted for the land of the country; in the meantime, it would be a great pity if possible and reasonable reforms, of great importance to mining interests and commerce, should be delayed, in order to promote the realisation of what is generally regarded as visionary theory. "The legions of JULIUS CESAR," says Mr. YALE, the American author, in his work on Mining Claims, "were taught the mode of mining for tin by the ancient Britons, whose very name is derived from that vulgar metal, and whose laws and customs are still in force in the same localities, originating in a remote antiquity 'surviving all changes of conquest, language, and race.'" With such a history before us it behoves all to be wary how they would uproot the basis of mining rights.

FRANK SAFFORD,
Middle Temple.

EXAMINATION FOR COLLIERY MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.—The annual examination of candidates for certificates as colliery managers, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1872, was held for the district of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire at the Yorkshire College, Leeds, on the 29th and 30th ult., by Messrs. T. W. Embleton, William Evans, and Thomas Carrington, examiners. Mr. F. N. Wardell, H.M. Inspector of Mines, and Mr. J. R. Jeffery, secretary to the board, also attended. There were 14 candidates, 10 of whom obtained the number of marks entitling them to pass. The maximum number of marks obtainable was 900. The following are the names of the successful candidates, with the number of marks obtained:—

Names.	Number of marks obtained.
William Hay, jun.	772 1/2
Isaac Robson	712 1/2
Thomas Young Hay	690
James Wroe	642 1/2
David Scanlan	635
Andrew Oldroyd	610
William Pattison	605
Joseph Sheard	605
Joshua Bramham	602 1/2
Herbert Fisher	600

Twenty-six candidates presented themselves at the recent Bristol Examination for Colliery Managers. Lewis Williams, a working collier at Cwmaman Colliery, Aberdare, obtained the full marks—600. This man was one of the most successful pupils at the science classes instituted by Mr. T. A. Southern at Cwmaman Colliery two years ago.

PROBABLE RISE OF SEVERAL POUNDS IN THE PRICE OF LEAD.

BANKERS—Messrs. GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE, and CO.
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CHAS. F. SMITH, Secretary.

6, Great George-street, Westminster.

The Mining Market: Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET—LONDON, JULY 17, 1885.

IRON.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	TIN.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Fig. 4MB, f.o.b., Clyde...	2 0 11	—	English, ingot, f.o.b....	97 0 0	—
" Scotch pig, No. 1 Gartale...	2 6 9	—	" bars ...	98 0 0	—
" Coltness ...	2 8 6	—	" refined ...	99 0 0	—
" Clyde ...	2 8 3	—	Australian ...	91 10 0	—
" Govan ...	2 10	—	Banco ...	nom.	—
Wales, f.o.b., Wales ...	4 10 0	—	Straita ...	94 10 3	—
" in London ...	5 0 0	—			
" Stafford ...	4 15 0	—			
" in Tyne or Tees ...	5 0 0	—			
" Swedish, London ...	9 5 0	—			
" Wales, at works ...	4 10 0	—			
" Wales, in London ...	6 10 0	—			
" plates, ship, in London ...	6 0 0	—			
" Hoops, Staff ...	6 0 0	—			
" Nail rods, Staff, in Lon. ...	6 0 0	—			
English spring ...	12 0 0	—			
" cast ...	12 0 0	—			
" Swedish, keg ...	12 0 0	—			
" fag, hump ...	12 0 0	—			
" Rills at works ...	4 15 0	—			
" Light, at works ...	5 15 0	—			
LEAD.					
English pig, common ...	12 5 0	—			
" " L.B. ...	12 10 0	—			
" sheet and barf ...	12 10 0	—			
" pig ...	12 10 0	—			
" red ...	12 10 0	—			
" white ...	12 10 0	—			
" patent shot ...	12 10 0	—			
" Spanish ...	12 10 0	—			
SPELTER.					
Italian ordinary brands ...	12 6 0	—			
" special brands ...	13 10 0	—			
" English Swansea ...	14 2 6	—			
" Sheetplate ...	15 10 0	—			

* At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less for ordinary; 10s. per ton less for Canada; 1X 5s. per box more than 10 quoted above, and add 5s. for each X. Terne-plates 2s. per box below tin-plates of similar brands.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the past week the amount of regular business transacted has been limited. Prices can sometimes be taken as indicative of the demand; but not always, and at the present they are, as we have often shown during the past few weeks, regulated principally by supply. Whilst the tone of a few markets is good and others bad, we can but glance at the regular state of the trade, and see what business is actually being carried out to meet the current requirements. Not that such an investigation is likely to give any material insight into the future of the market, because, with the uncertain question of supply before us, prices are more likely to be regulated therefrom than by demand. At least, such has been the case during the past few months, and there are no signs of coming change in the near future. In ascertaining the present condition of the demand, if we include what has been done for speculation, as well as for consumption and export. Then tin is by far the most active metal, the turnover having been simply enormous. During the last few months more than the actual stock has been turned over and over again at rapidly increasing prices, and whilst regular business in that metal has been brisk the speculative enquiry has been quite animated. Though most of the advance is due to legitimate causes, such as a fair trade, and more particularly to short supplies, yet at the same time the extensive buying for speculation has materially assisted the advance. If any damper is occasionally placed upon speculative enquiry it is, however, speedily removed, and the mania for buying restarted with apparently fresh vigour and energy from the temporary pause. It is, however, not only speculation that makes the tin market animate, nor is it merely operators who are willing to purchase at the advanced prices. The good deliveries for the first half of the present month evidence a sound trade, and further a large business is reported in English, in which there is little or no speculation. We treat on this metal first, not because it is of more importance than the others, but because it is attracting a far greater amount of attention at the present time than any other, and because it is possible that its attractiveness may afford some outlet for the investment of the large profits which have been made in that metal during the past few months, for the numerous dividends that are falling due for the first half-year, and for the plethora of money that is dragging upon the money market. In copper there has been a fair business doing, and most of the smelters are reported to be still tolerably busy. For a long time past there rarely has been any cause for complaint of the actual amount of business doing in that particular metal, for the lower that prices recede the more extensive do transactions become. It is the low prices arising from a far too heavy supply that has been the cause of depression in copper, and not the actual business transacted. In iron there is every evidence of bad trade. Bad prices, limited demand, small shipments, increasing stocks are all features which prove the trade to be in a most deplorable condition, and certain failures which are frequently being announced in the iron trade prove that business in iron is far from profitable. The limited business doing therein may in some measure be attributed to the substitution of steel for various purposes that iron was formerly used for, and in steel with the exception of rails, which are dull, a very fair business is being carried through. A moderate enquiry exists for lead, spelter, and quicksilver; but in tin-plates the advanced prices demanded on account of the reduced production seems rather to have checked the enquiry, and buyers appear to be holding off the market for more favourable terms, whilst suppliers do not seem altogether indisposed to meet them to a certain extent. From the foregoing remarks it will be seen that whilst in a few branches the trade is fairly good, yet much increase in the enquiry is still required ere the general demand for metals can be pronounced good.

COPPER.

The principal feature in this market is its manifest steadiness. All through the week prices have undergone very little change, and there has been scarcely any new feature to report. As a rule there have been plenty of buyers of Chili bars at 44l., and various sales have taken place thereat for sharp cash parcels; but sellers have been by no means plentiful under 44l. 2s. 6d. Whilst buyers have been willing to purchase at 44s., yet they have shown no disposition whatever to pay more than that figure, except, of course, for forward prompts, which have realised an extra price according to the length of the prompt. On Saturday there were a few buyers at 44l. 2s. 6d., but since which they have not been disposed to pay that figure. Too much importance cannot be attached to the steadiness of the market. It is a significant fact that as soon as the market touches its present figure, there is little or no disposition to go on selling in any quantity. On some few previous occasions, as soon as the prices have touched ruling rates, an advance has soon afterward followed. Not a rise of any great consequence; but still precedent shows that some recovery, or a slightly stiffening tendency, have invariably followed close after the acceptance of present figures. We do not mean to infer from this that a speedy advance is now likely to be effected. It may, of course, take place; but it is worthy of record that this week the very heavy supplies, which are constantly advised; the semi-panic feeling which at times has existed upon the Stock Exchange, and the unfavourable rumours from Afghanistan which have been set afloat have made little or no impression whatever upon the market. Another feature which it may be well to bring under the notice of our readers is the steadiness which also characterises the market for manufactured. Smelters show no inclination whatever to give way in their quotations, they have enough orders on hand to keep their mills going for the time being, and whether they think well of the market or not they show no particular desire to book forward at current rates. The very fair Indian business recently transacted has given continued employment to most of the works, and although for such business deliveries may now be nearly completed, yet it would be necessary to offer very tempting specifications to induce smelters to make the slightest concession in price. At the moment there is no very great amount of fresh business coming forward; but with what there is, and with the orders already on hand, manufacturers have little or no difficulty in giving continued support to their market. To-day the charters from Chili for the first half of July have been announced as 1500 tons, and no material influence has arisen therefrom, the market having continued to maintain and preserve the steadiness that has characterised it throughout the whole week. There have been sellers of Chili bars at 44l. 1s. 3d. and buyers at 44l., actual business being decidedly limited.

IRON

This market is most inactive, the dullness apparently becoming more and more pronounced. In all parts of the country the same gloomy complaints exist of a scarcity of orders, an absence of enquiry, and of unprofitable prices. At the last week's Quarterly Meetings there was no alteration made in the price of list brands, marked bars continuing to be quoted at 7l. 10s., but sellers reserved the right of accepting less. In other words, the combination which has existed for so many years amongst the list houses not to sell under one another, has been brought to a termination, and sellers will, for the future, act independently of each other. In the present state of the market this decision is not surprising, because with the general tendency of the times to study cheapness, the list houses are naturally anxious to be placed in a position to compete more favourably with the houses that turn out not quite so good an iron as what is known as marked bars. Very good Staffordshire bars can be procured at 6l. to 6l. 10s. per ton, being 20s. to 30s. below marked iron, and consumers, in many instances, realising the necessity of cutting-down, and studying economy, use good ordinary iron in place of list brands, with the necessary consequence of running the list houses very short of orders. To amend as far as possible this state of things, the list houses have now determined to be free from restrictions of one kind and another, to have nothing to do with combinations, and to sell in a free and independent manner, according to the orders that each house may receive. The quotation—7l. 10s.—is but a nominal one; there were but few buyers who would pay it before, and there are still less now, and the question of prices becomes a matter of negotiation with the suppliers of the required brands. It might be supposed from these remarks that manufacturers of second-class Staffordshire bars have, from the cause to which reference has been made, been busy with orders, but in reality it is far otherwise. If they have secured some of the orders which in ordinary times would have gone to the list houses, they have lost much of the business which they previously relied upon. Some of such orders have found their way to the suppliers of the very lowest quality of Staffordshire iron, but the bulk of them have been taken by manufacturers in other parts of the country, who, from their nearer position to the coast, have more economical means of transit, and are thus able to supply the trade upon cheaper and more favourable terms. The Glasgow warrant market has been quiet this week, and prices fairly steady. On Monday the price was about 40s. 11d., at which there were buyers, and on Tuesday a fair business was done between 40s. 11d. and 40s. 11½d. On Wednesday a moderate business was transacted at 40s. 11½d., sellers at the close asking 41s. 0½d., with buyers at 41s., and yesterday the price was 40s. 11d., which is the closing figure for the week, but only a small business was carried through. The market was closed from yesterday forenoon until next Tuesday morning, on account of the Glasgow holidays. The shipments last week were 5940 tons, against 7310 tons for the same week of last year, being a decrease of 2152 tons, and which makes the total shipments for the whole of this year 241,671 tons, against 306,133 tons for the same time of last year, and 339,580 tons for the similar period of 1883. There is one extra furnace in blast, the present total being 91, and the public stock has been further increased by 2208 tons, and now amounts to 605,662 tons, against 603,454 tons last week. The imports of Middlesborough pig-iron into Grangemouth last week were 5940 tons, against 4570 tons for the same week of last year, being an increase of 1370 tons, and which makes a total increase for the whole of this year, compared with last, of 61,143 tons. The Middlesborough market is very flat; but, notwithstanding that business is not limited, yet prices for No. 3 are fairly steady at 32s. from second hands, and makers quote from 32s. to 32s. 6d.; but No. 4 is easier at 31s. 3d. to 31s. 6d. The public stock shows an increase for the week of 1850 tons, and amounts to 55,832 tons, the nominal price of warrants being 32s. 9d. The shipments so far during the month have been small, amounting to 30,344 tons, or, more than 6000 tons less than they were for the same time of last month. There is little alteration to report in manufactured, bars and ship-plates being quoted at 4l. 15s., angles at 4l. 10s., and puddled bars at 3l. per ton. The Wolverhampton market has been less unsettled, and more confidence has existed. Orders, however, have been by no means large, but fresh business is shortly anticipated. Some makers have secured fair orders for best sheets, and thin sheets are quoted from 10l. to 11l. The price of second-class bars is 6l. 10s., and common 5l. 5s. to 6l. There is

but little doing in pigs, Northampton realising from 37s. 6d. and upwards, and common Staffordshire can be bought from 33s. to 35s. There is very little doing at Birmingham, and not much alteration to report in prices. There is but a small sale for pigs, and prices range from 37s. 6d. down to 35s. per ton.

TIN.

At the commencement of the week this market was very strong, and business was done at repeatedly improved prices; but on Wednesday there was some reaction, which has resulted in the acceptance once again of reduced prices. Since there is such a vast amount of speculation in the market, fluctuation and change must be anticipated. It is, however, a satisfactory sign that lately all the various changes have only resulted in the realisation of better prices. Perhaps the most striking feature of the week connected with the market is the improved prices that have been obtained for forward prompts. Since the recent advance first commenced one of the weakest and worst points in the market has been the small business that has been transacted for forward prompts, and the comparatively low prices obtainable for the same. Forward lots at times were offering as much as 5l. below the price for cash, indicating a lack of confidence in the stability of the market. But this week there has been a decided change for the better in this matter, and rarely has there existed more than 20s. difference, and sometimes not that. We may account for this change, principally on the ground that many operators believed in the temporary cessation of supplies only. They thought that as soon as the Suez Canal block was removed supplies would again come forward freely, and further that the advanced prices would tend to increase the supplies. But in this they were mistaken, for while we are ready to admit that the block in the Suez Canal materially assisted the advance, yet the rise was not wholly due to that cause, otherwise long ere this there would have been a smart reaction. No; it is the scarcity of tin in America that gives support to the market, and already during this month a fair quantity of tin has been shipped from London to meet in some measure the wants of America. During this week, with but little check, the price in New York has advanced rapidly, at one time touching 107l. 6s. 8d. per ton, a figure which we can well understand is likely to induce holders here to forward more of their tin to the American market, when for the present, at all events, they can only obtain for their stocks some 10l. to 12l. per ton less. Another feature worthy of comment is the good deliveries that are reported for the first half of the present month. Those who were inclined to take a pessimist view of the market laid considerable stress upon the somewhat reduced deliveries for the month of June, but this is a point which no longer stands good because deliveries are now very satisfactory. If consumers thought it advisable to be cautious, and not purchase too largely at the commencement of the advance, they now either view the prospects of the market as more favourable, or else the pressing requirements necessitate their purchasing. It matters not from which cause it arises, it may be that both influences combined have their bearing upon the market just now, but all we have to do with it is the fact that deliveries have increased, thus indicating a good regular trade has been transacted in addition to that done for speculation.

SPELTER.—There has been a further improvement in this article and orders have been taken up to 13l. 12s. 6d. for ordinaries, and 13l. 15s. for specials, at which prices the market is steady.

LEAD is quiet but steady, and there are sellers of Spanish at 12l. 10s., and of English at 12l. 5s. to 12l. 10s. per ton.

STEEL.—There is a very fair business doing in most descriptions and some of the works are tolerably busy, but rails meet with only a small enquiry.

TIN-PLATES.—Prices are steadily sustained, and the demand, although moderately good, is not so large as could be desired.

QUICKSILVER.—A dragging market, with second-hand parcels freely offered at 5l. 15s.

The settlement of the usual fortnightly account has occupied the chief attention of the dealers in the MINING SHARE MARKET this week; but a fair demand, and in some cases at advanced rates, has existed for tin mines, and for one or two lead mines. Copper mines have been flat and neglected. The mines mostly dealt in have been Dolcoath, East Pool, Wheal Agar, Leadhills, Great Laxey, Wheal Grenville, West Kitty, East Blue Hills, Metal and Flow, Prince of Wales, Roman Gravels, and a few others.

Tin has advanced this week to 97l., but left off weaker. No advance has yet been made in the standards for ore in Cornwall since the 29th of June. Shares in tin mines have been in good request, and it will seen from the quotations that several have had a good advance in prices.

Blue Hills are quoted at 3½ to 1½; Carn Brea, 3 to 3½; Cook's Kitchen, 8½ to 8½. Dolcoaths have been in special demand, and advanced to 73, 75. A good dividend is anticipated at the meeting on Monday. East Pools have also advanced to 44½, 45½; at the meeting last Monday a dividend of 17. 4s. per share, 7680l., was declared, and 460l. added to the reserve fund. The profit on three months' working was 8140l. The tin sold realised 16,821l.; wolfram, 1090l.; arsenic, 961l., making the receipts 18,980l., and the costs were 10,849l. The mine is looking well, and is now 228 fms. deep. East Blue Hills have been weaker through market operations, and leave off 1½ to 1½. No change at the mine. Killifreth, 12s. to 14s.; New Kitty, 10s. to 15s.; South Condarrow, 7 to 7½; South Croft, 3½ to 4; South Frances, 8½ to 9; Tincroft, 6½ to 7; West Basset, 2½ to 2½; West Frances, 8½ to 8½; West Kitty, 7½ to 7½; Wheal Agars have advanced to 19, 20; Wheal Basset, 8½ to 8½; Wheal Grenville, 10 to 10½; Wheal Kitty (St. Agnes), 8 to 8½; Wheal Metal and Flow, 3 to 1; Wheal Peever, 10s. to 15s.; Par Tin, 1 to 1½; Yeoland Consols, par ½ prem.; East Tregembo, ½ to ½; Goodevere, 1½ to 1½; Mounts Bay, 1s. to 2s.; Phoenix, 1½ to 2; Trevaunance, 1½ to 1½; West Goldolphin, 1 to 1½.

COPPER continues dull, and there is very little doing in shares, the quotations for which are mostly nominal. Bedford United are quoted ½ to ½; Devon Great Consols, 2½ to 2½; Gunnislake (Clitters), 5s. to 7s. 6d.; Mellanear, 3 to 1; Prince of Wales, 7s. to 9s.; New West Caradon, 3s. to 4s. West Seton, 6 to 6½; this mine continues to open out well for tin, and good returns should shortly be made. The lode will be cut at the 204 in about 10 days. Wheal Crebor, 1½ to 1½; at the meeting a dividend of 1s., or 600l., was declared, leaving a balance in hand clear of every liability of 2111l. 0s. 2d. The copper ores sold for five months realised 2977l. 16s., while five months cost, amounting to 2771l. 4s. 6d., were charged against them, but as 400l. had been put by for this, the 13th month, the actual profit was 617l. 7s. 2d. The stock of mundic in hand, and at present unsold, is estimated at 1300l., and it is expected at the next meeting a larger profit will be shown. The sampling of copper ore on the 30th will be 500 tons. New West Caradon, 3s. to 4s.; South Caradon, 2 to 2½.

LEAD is rather easier; but, in anticipation of an advance, there has been more doing in lead mines, and in some cases at even advanced prices. Altogether there is a better demand for lead mines. Vans have been in good demand, and advanced to 1½, 1½; the 135 level west is driven 33 ft.; lode continues worth 2½ tons of lead ore per fathom. Great Laxey have advanced, 9½ to 10½; Leadhills have risen to 2½, 2½; the new run of ore, driven through at the 100, south on Brown's lode, is 27½ fms. long, and best in the bottom of the level. Jeffreys' shaft is down 9 fms. below the level. Roman Gravels have advanced ½ to 5. The 110 fm. level south has improved from 2½ to 3½ tons of ore per fathom, and the 125 south is improving. D'Eresby, 1 to 1½, fully paid; the report this week is of a more favourable character, and shows improvements in one or two points. Weardale, 1½ to 1½; an important discovery was made at Killhope a day or two ago. The agent states that in driving the

cross-cut north from the shaft he has cut into a vein of ore 9 in. wide, which at a low estimate will yield 3½ tons to the fathom. Craven Moor, 9s. to 11s.; East Rose, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Frongoch, 2s. 6d. to 5s.; Great Holway, 27s. to 32s. 6d.; Old Shepherds, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Standard, 1½ to 1¾; Gwernymynydd, ½ to 1.

FOREIGN MINES.—Balkis, 9d. to 1s. 3d.; Birdseye, 1½ to 1¾; Bratsberg, ¾ to 1; Callao Bis, 6s. to 8s.; Cape Copper, 24 to 26; Chile Gold, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Colorado, 2½ to 2¾; Colombian Gold, 8s. 9d. to 11s. 3d.; Copiapo, 2½ to 2¾; Frontino and Bolivia, ¾ to ¾; Hoover Hill, 6s. to 8s.; La Plata, 5s. to 6s.; Lisbon-Early, 1s. to 2s.; Mysore, 1½ to 1¾; Nundyroog, 8s. to 10s.; Orita, ¾ to 1½; Panulillo, 2 to 2½; Richmond, 3 to 3½.

Oscar, 10s. to 12s. 6d.; a telegram has been received from the manager stating that the clean-up from Daw's lode gave an average of 8½ dwts. of gold to the ton; Bear lode stuff taken from the deepest part of the mine shows an improvement; a full report is expected next week. Santa Barbara, 1 to 1½; the advices show the produce for the month of June at 3500 oits. of gold, valued at 1487l. 10s. Schwab's Gully, 3 to 3½; United Mexican, 3 to 3½;

Cartago, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Ooregum, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; Montana, 1½ to 4; Potosi, 4s. to 6s.; St. John del Rey, 62½ to 67½; Tolima A, 4 to 4½.

Mining Notes.

THE increase that has occurred recently in the price of tin, if it continues, will prove of much benefit to Cornwall generally, and the complaints that have been rife for several years must cease as a natural sequence. So far most mines have not felt the advantage of the enhanced price. But as meeting now succeeds meeting this satisfactory effect will be seen. The first mine to show this fact to demonstration has been East Pool. Take this as a comparison:—Last quarter the credits were 17,085l. Out of this amount the lord of the mine (Mr. G. L. Basset) stepped in for 969l. as dues, and the holders of 6400 shares received 6400l. For this quarter the credits were 18,989l.; Mr. Basset received in dues 1071l.; and the shareholders had, as dividends, 7680l. The report, which cannot fail to please every adventurer, will be found elsewhere. Captain Bishop's supplementary remarks were well received, especially his references to the lode first discovered at the 228, in respect of which, among the public, there has been misapprehension. This lode at the 228, it would appear, is better than it was at the 212. It is now 7 ft. wide, well-defined, and of greater value than on the upper level.

DURING the present week the Cornish Mining Exchange has not been very active. The only share largely dealt in has been Dolcoath. The price has ranged from 73½ to 74, closing buyers at the best. The future rests on the nature of the report at Monday's meeting and tin maintaining its strength. As we ventured to predict in our last issue, East Pool shares have not declined. We said that the price would be just the same ex div. as cum div. This has been proved by the result. Shares were 45½ cum div., and whilst the dividend was 24s. per share shares after the meeting could not find sellers at about 45. West Kitty is said to be looking better, and the price has risen to 73. The meeting is on the 29th inst. A considerable rise in Cook's Kitchens at any moment is not a remote possibility. For West Setons there has been a satisfactory demand. The newly-discovered north lode is being opened out as cheerily as was ever anticipated, and the lode is expected to be cut in the cross-cut in the 204 immediately. This done a cross-cut will be commenced in the west level above. The St. Agnes group of mines, West Kitty excepted, are quieter. Great faith is being expressed in East Blue Hills. South Frances shares have been more enquired for at 9. They are here able to speak of good prospects. The last fortnight's sale of tin realised 1013l., and should Capt. Craze go on returning tin at this rate there should be a profit on the four months of about 2000l., and a dividend of about 7s. 6d. per share be given. Several points have improved since the meeting. There is a fine lode in the 236 winze, west of Pascoe's, the produce being 1½ cwt. to the ton of stuff. The winze in the 226, 14 fms. west of Pascoe's also is of the value of 1½ cwt. to the ton of stuff. Wheal Agars have advanced to 20 per share. One of the eastern ends is stated to have become richer. The returns of tin have, so far, been in excess of the returns for the previous account, and, with the increased price for tin, the profit, for the current account cannot fail to be considerably increased. Carn Brea meeting is within a fortnight. Capt. Teague will furnish the most favourable statement made for some time. We hear that the 200, east of Highburrow, is worth more than 30l. per fm. The size is not known, as it cannot be carried larger than the bar of the boring machine. The lode in the winze in the 187, east of Highburrow also holds its own, being of the value of 50l. per fathom. In respect of the mines in the St. Just district we hear that Levant continues to do well.

CAPTAIN BISHOP, the manager of East Pool, simply "went for" the "bears" of the Redruth Mining Exchange at Monday's meeting of the mine. In proposing the health of Mr. Henry Rogers, purser of East Lovell, the manager said his friend had bought on his advice 100 shares in the mine, and wished he had accepted the advice sooner. The shares cost Mr. Rogers 50l., and the price was now 45½. Captain Bishop added:—If ever I am annoyed, in passing up and down the country in the railway train, it is to hear parties talk about how much they lose in mining. They may invest, and gain 5000l. on the one hand and lose 10l. on the other. (Laughter.) Here (East Pool) is a ship bombarded from every quarter, but bombarded to the greatest extent on the Redruth Mining Exchange. (Laughter.) They have simply been buying and selling dividends. (Renewed laughter.) When they get in the Exchange they speak so disparagingly of the poor old ship that a stranger would think this was a worthless mine. I think she will go on giving dividends when these babblers have finished. (Much laughter.) They have called in question the assays—the different valuations of the bargains. I gave them a chance one day to investigate any particular quarter, and if the report did not bear out the assays I would pay for a champagne luncheon for them. (Hear, hear.) We have "missed the lodes" ever so often, and been "unbottomed," and the "boring-machine" is always troublesome. (Much laughter.) I think we have vitality enough in the bottom to live out the whole of these gentlemen. (Hear, hear.) In response to the compliment paid him, Mr. Rogers said the financial affairs of the mine were as satisfactory as any mine in the county.

MR. G. A. MICHELL, Chairman of committee at East Pool, was complimented by Mr. Heard, at Monday's meeting, in being told that he had contributed to the success of the mine. Mr. Michell and his friends had stuck to the property for a long series of years. For his (Mr. Heard's) part, he had always thought a committee of a mine, if it did not unduly interfere in the working of a property, was to the advantage of the property. The Chairman, in a few apposite words, admitted that for a long series of years he had endeavoured to do all he could for East Pool. He was the largest shareholder in the county, and was not inclined to lessen but to increase that interest. He hoped here were those present who would follow him, and increase

their interest. They should not think harm would be the result. His interest there had been his fortune since he had been connected with the mine. For ourselves, we may add that the largest shareholder in the mine is receiving nearly 3000l. a-year from the mine in dividends.

EAST POOL's new shaft has been named Michell's shaft, a compliment to the respected Chairman of committee. Mr. John R. Branwell, a committeeman, replying to the toast of his health at Monday's meeting, expressed the hope that hereafter Michell's shaft would contribute to the future success of the mine. ("Mr. Michell: I am sure it will"; and applause.) They had in East Pool a prosperous mine; and whilst the committee had the finances to administer he believed they would neither go to the right nor to the left, but would go onward in the straight course in regard to the adventurers' interests. In this property the shareholders may congratulate themselves on the fact that no member of the committee is a supplier of mine material.

A SIXTEEN-WEEKLY meeting of the shareholders in Cook's Kitchen was held on the mine on Friday. Debits were 3881l., and the credits 1103l. The loss was 2745l., which increased the debit balance to 7338l. Capt. Josiah Thomas, the manager, said they had not sold so much tin as in the previous quarter, they having for commercial purposes stopped all stopes but one. It had been thought by the principal shareholders that they should devote all their energies to sinking the shaft, and opening out the bottom level. Of the four months one was devoted to the sinking of the shaft. Since then the bottom level had been carried 14 fms. east of the shaft, and a cross-cut had been driven south in order to ascertain the exact position of the south lode in reference to main lode. This has been driven 26 ft. He thought this was nearly through the south lode, which was 10 ft. wide. The south lode was underlying north towards the main lode. There could be no doubt that in 3 or 4 fms. further sinking the junction of these lodes would take place, then the two lodes would doubtless continue together. A call of 2l. per share, reducing the debt to 2400l., was agreed to. Immediately sinking of shaft is to be resumed, and loss next time will not probably be so large. As an answer to Mr. Vyner's charges has been thrown into the Stannaries Court, which welcomes any complaint, Mr. Bawden (accountant) disproves charges of erasures and wrong accounts in Cook's Kitchen.

THE directors of the Craven Moor United Lead Company express "very great surprise and wonder that the shareholders have only responded to about one-half of the shares in this company. The company has been in existence nearly one year, and the work done up to the present time points to a successful issue. The directors have now come to the conclusion that the absolute strength of the company should be accurately ascertained, and for that purpose your shares will be forfeited unless you comply with the notice herewith. There is no desire on their part that the shares should be absolutely taken from you by reason of forfeiture, but they, with all other shareholders who have taken up their shares and paid the call of 3s. per share, are now naturally desirous that those who have not should be legally excluded from the benefit which must certainly accrue from the coming rise in the price of lead."

THE clean-up from the last crushing from Daw's lode at the Oscar Gold averages 8 dwts. 6 grs. of gold per ton of stuff treated, while Oscar lode at the deepest point gives an increased yield. According to the latest information a further important improvement has taken place in Daw's lode, and the manager fully anticipates the next clean-up will produce an average of ¾ oz. of gold per ton of stuff stamped. The total expenses, both in Norway and England, are covered by 10s. per ton. It is stated the whole 50 heads of stamps will be at work on Monday next.

THE assault case, heard before the county magistrates at Camborne, on Tuesday, in which Mr. Rule and Mr. Curtis, two mine brokers, appeared, has been much discussed on the Redruth Mining Exchange this week, and regret is expressed that such proceedings were rendered possible. The members of the Exchange, however, resent some suggestions made as to the Exchange being associated somewhat in the matter.

SAY what opponents may, Mr. Conybeare has done good in introducing to the mining constituency of Cornwall his draft Mine Leases Bill. Both at West Basset meeting and at East Pool meeting the Bill has come in for criticism. At both the men of light and leading have not so much condemned the principles of the Bill as the fact that the Bill bears the name of a stranger, an "amateurish politician," a political agitator. These friends of Mr. Vivian can hardly do the latter gentleman any service by thus denouncing the latter's opponent, when it is remembered that Mr. Vivian has not yet drafted a Bill. Then, too, it is a mistake to suppose that those persons who have assisted Mr. Conybeare have not a farthing invested in Cornish mining. We know better—know, in fact, that the chief advice Mr. Conybeare has had has been from a gentleman with as great a knowledge of mining, in every way, as has Mr. Lanyon, who has been Mr. Conybeare's principal critic. The Mine Leases Bill requires amendment. Mr. Conybeare admits this.

THE manager of the Javali Mine, under date of June 6, reports that owing to the dry season the mill worked during the preceding month only 21½ days. The ore crushed amounted to 896 tons, yielding 267 ozs. of gold, valued at 668l.; the expenditure at the mine was 995l. Rain had begun to fall.

THE La Plata Mining and Smelting Company have received the following cable from Mr. Reuben Rickard, dated July 13, giving profit for three months to June 30:—"Profit on three months is, smelter, \$27,000; mine, \$34,000."

Meetings of the Accidents in Mines Commission were held on Tuesday and Wednesday at its offices, 2, Victoria-street, Westminster. There were present the Chairman, Mr. Warrington W. Smyth, F.R.S., Sir Frederick Abel, C.B., F.R.S., Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P., Professor Clifton, F.R.S., Sir George Elliot, M.P., Mr. W. Thomas Lewis, and the secretary (Mr. Arthur J. Williams).

The secretary of the Balkis Company writes as follows:—"Reports received July 15 from the Balkis mill show a return of over 48 ozs. of gold for 62 tons crushed. The clean up of the dies will add at least one-third to this result, so that the mill is yielding an average of over 1 oz. to the ton. The property is now self-supporting."

THE next general meeting of the West Kitty Mining Company will be held on the mine on the 29th inst., at 12 o'clock.

THE statutory general meeting of the Almada and Tinto Company (Limited) will be held at 47, Finsbury Circus on the 22nd inst. at 2 p.m., to receive the directors' report, and to fix their remuneration, &c. Mr. Sanchez, under date June 9 last, reports that the May profits (exclusive of smelting profits, which will be included in June accounts) amounted to \$1346.24. The net value of smelting ores and other products awaiting reduction was \$26,350. The net assets on May 31 over all liabilities were \$26,787.24.

At the meeting on Friday, the 10th inst., of the Newport Abercarn Black Vein Colliery Company, the report of the directors was adopted, and a dividend declared on the ordinary shares of 4 per cent., making, with the interim dividend paid in January last, 7 per cent. for the year; and a dividend on the preference shares of 7 per cent. per annum was declared, less interim dividend paid. The Chairman (the Right Hon. H. Cecil Raikes, M.P.) said that sufficient had been earned to make the usual distribution of 10 per cent., but during the year the company have made exceptionally heavy outlays, which have been charged to revenue.

The accounts presented at the meeting yesterday (Friday) of Wheal Crebor showed the very satisfactory profit of 6177l. s. 2d., out of which a dividend of 1s. per share was declared, payable on the 23rd inst. Such a result, in spite of the fact that the prices realised for the copper ores sold have been excessively low, is a matter for congratulation. But beyond the profit actually realised, there is a quantity of mundie on the mine which, at a low estimate, is put down at 1000l., and for which no credit is taken in the accounts. The mine is opening out well, and there is every reason to believe that the returns will be maintained, if not increased. With anything like a fair price for copper and mundie, Wheal Crebor promises to be permanently profitable.

MR. A. P. Vivian, M.P., in a letter to an elector, declares himself in favour of laying down the principle of compulsory compensation for unexhausted improvements in the case of mines. He further asserts that tenancies of mines should be continuable.

A PETITION for the winding-up of the Balkis Company was presented by Messrs. Hoyle, Shipley, and Hoyle, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, on the 16th inst. The petition will be heard on the 25th inst. Anyone wishing to oppose the winding-up of the company must appear personally or by counsel.

OUR readers will recollect we gave a full report, sometime since, of the proceedings at North Treskerby when Baron Grant desired to float the mine as a Limited Liability Company with 65,000l. capital. Since then the Baron has met his creditors. Nothing has been heard as to the measure of success that attended Baron Grant's efforts, but operations at the mine have been carried out on a large scale. The *West Briton* is our authority for stating that "the employees at North Treskerby are said to be in a sorry plight, no pay having been forthcoming for several weeks past." "Is this," the same journal asks, "attributable to the failure of Baron Grant? Captain Richard Pryor is generally regarded as a lucky man in having obtained a bill of sale on the whole of the machinery."

THE Wassau Gold Coast Mining Company (Limited) circulated the following information yesterday:—"In the circular issued on the 14th December last, it was estimated that, from that date 'the monthly values of gold remittances would exceed the expenses—the proportions increasing as time goes on,' the last part of that statement, so far as increase of gold, has been realised, but the excess over expenses has not been reached. The figures are: Received for gold crushing in six months ended 30th April, 1885, 3091l. 4s. 9d., which, as compared with previous six months ended 31st October, 1884, 2132l. 6s. 10d., shows an increase of 159l. 16s. 4d. per month, equal to 958l. 17s. 11d. The total expenditure for six months ended in Africa, 30th April, and six months in London, ended 30th June, 1885, amounted to 3977l. 10s. 6d., being 181l. 1s. 1d. less than the previous six month periods. It may be mentioned that, on the settlement of a question of return of duties from the Customs at Axim, this comparative decrease, in actual expenditure, will probably be increased. As regards expenses, every consistent endeavour is being made at the mines on the side of economy; the number of natives employed has been gradually reduced from 180, at which it stood in January last, to 150 in May. As to future remittances; the fall of rain was heavy during the latter part of April, and it continued to be so in May; but under the now more complete state of the works it had not the effect of checking operations to the same extent as was the case last year. Mr. Crocker left Liverpool on the 11th inst., on a visit to the mines; he has chosen an opportune time to make this visit. The periods of engagements of some of the European staff will shortly terminate; Mr. Crocker's presence will be a support to the manager in making the re-engagements and changes that will then be necessary, and his counsel, on the spot, on all matters connected with the company's operations, cannot fail to be of advantage, especially so on the point of economical and efficient working."

At a meeting of the Copper Queen United Mining Company (Limited), on Wednesday, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:—

That the conditional agreement of the 4th July, 1885, submitted to the meeting for rescission of the contracts with the vendor be, and the same is hereby, approved and adopted.

That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable forthwith to dissolve the company, and to return to the shareholders the capital subscribed, less expenses, and, with a view thereto, that the company be wound up voluntarily, and Messrs. R. Walker and G. Forman, two of the directors, be, and they are hereby, appointed liquidators.

That the Court be requested not to make a compulsory order on the pending petition for winding up, but that the voluntary liquidation be continued under supervision.

THE following satisfactory statement is from the Ooregum Gold Mining Company of India:—"The board have now the satisfaction to state that the recent measures taken to resuscitate the company have been quite successful, the whole of the 120,000 preference shares authorised to be issued have been allotted. The chargeholders have all been paid off, and the company has received back the charge which they held. The board lost no time after allotment of the preference shares in telegraphing instructions to Captain Plummer to make all preparations for resuming operations at the mine. The telegram was dispatched on the 20th ultimo. The board have secured the services of Captain Plummer, of the Mysore Company's mines, as consulting engineer. A mine agent has been engaged, as also an officer to fill the post of cashier and accountant. The former left England on the 27th ultimo, and the latter sails to-day. Four artisans—namely, a mechanical engineer, pitman, and two shaft and timbermen, have also been engaged, and will sail tomorrow. The next general meeting of the company will be held in the month of November. Application will immediately be made to the Stock Exchange for an official quotation for the preference shares, and also for resuming the official quotation of the ordinary shares. Mr. Charles Henry Wallroth, the largest shareholder in the company, has joined the board. The company has now resumed operations, with much good work already done, with excellent mining prospects before it, with a considerable capital, and a careful and economical management. The directors look upon the enterprise as one in regard to which the probability is in favour of a most successful future."

BRITISH DIVISION

NON-DIVIDEND BRITISH MINES

NON-DIVIDEND MINES—continued

FOREIGN DIVIDEND MINES

NON-DIVIDEND FOREIGN MINING

HOME RAILWAYS

IRON AND COAL COMPANIES

FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

GAS COMPANIES.

TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

MISCELLANEOUS

	Company.	Quint.	Price.
10	Anglo-American Brush	8 0 ...	1 1/2
10	Ditto	0 0 ...	3 3/4
50	Lon. & Glas. do.	10 0 ...	13 18
10	Noble's Explosives [L.]	25 0 ...	36 1/2
5	Gwan United Electric	10 0 ...	16 17
12	Tel. Con. & Maintenance [L.]	3 0 ...	9 1/2
10	United Asbestos	10 0 ...	25 1/2
20	Young's Patent Light & M.O.	8 0 ...	11 12

Law Intelligence.

THE MID-CORNWALL MINES.
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE: CHANCERY DIVISION.

(Before Mr. Justice North.)—JULY 13.

Mr. Richard Tonge, merchant, of Manchester, sued Mr. David Cook, clay merchant, of Roche, and Messrs. Coode, Shilson, and Co., solicitors and bankers, of St. Austell, charging the defendant Cook with having committed a breach of trust on the plaintiff by mortgaging the Mid-Cornwall Mines, of which the plaintiff was part owner with him, to the other defendants, without the knowledge or consent of plaintiff. Mr. Tonge was charged by Messrs. Coode, Shilson, and Co. with having taken the mortgage with full notice of his right. Mr. Cook, by his defence, denied the breach of trust, and alleged that Messrs. Coode and Co., who were at the time (1877) acting as his bankers and solicitors, required him to give security for what he owed them, and that they prepared the mortgage for his signature without previous communication with him, and that when he signed the mortgage he mentioned to them that he was only partially interested in the property in question, and other properties included in their security, and that they informed him that the security would only affect his interest in the property. Messrs. Coode, Shilson, and Co. afterwards sold the property, including the plaintiff's share, under the power in their mortgage, and Mr. Cook contended that having taken the security with notice of the plaintiff's interest they, and not he, were liable to make the compensation to the plaintiff. On the other hand, Messrs. Coode and Co. denied all knowledge of the plaintiff's interest at the time of taking the mortgage, and the question came before the Court to determine whether the defendant Cook had committed a fraudulent breach of trust by concealing plaintiff's interest in the property when he executed the mortgage to Messrs. Coode and Co., or whether, in certain events that have happened in connection with the transaction, Messrs. Coode and Co. could be held to have had actual or constructive notice of plaintiff's interest when they took their mortgage.

Mr. W. W. Karlake, Q.C., appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. W. Barber, Q.C., for the defendant. The hearing of the case occupied four days.

In giving judgment, his Lordship commenced by reference to the mining company in Cornwall, the sale and purchase of whose mine was the subject of the present action. That company was in existence prior to the year 1875, and the plaintiff and defendant were both resident in that county. Mr. Tonge was a director of the company, and was also the person upon whose application the winding-up order was made. After the winding-up order certain negotiations took place between Tonge and Cook for the purchase of the mine for their own benefit, and an agreement was made between them. Part of the agreement was that Tonge's interest was to be kept dark. Mr. Tonge had said in his evidence that he wished his name to be kept out of the transaction because he was Chairman of the company which was selling the property. Mr. Cook said the reason was that Mr. Tonge was the petitioning creditor and Chairman of the old company, and it was hard to say whether, if a person in his position was negotiating for the purchase of the property, difficulties might not have arisen which it was desirable to avoid. In 1876 the liquidator accepted an offer of 3000*l.*, and a deposit of 700*l.* was paid by Mr. Cook's cheque on Coode, Shilson, and Co. Evidence had been given at some length as to the arrangement made between Cook and Mr. Shilson. The advance of 800*l.* was applied for to the company which was to be formed, and afterwards Cook asked Mr. Shilson for a temporary advance of 700*l.*, to be paid as a deposit. The question had been raised as to whether there was any agreement for security. In his Lordship's opinion there was not, as it was only a temporary loan, although Mr. Shilson expected to be able to obtain it out of the company's property, because he expected to have a mortgage. But it was immaterial whether such an agreement was made, because the amount was to be paid off in two or three days. On the 16th of May, the day after the deposit had been paid, Mr. Cook wrote to Mr. Tonge for half of the deposit, saying that he had bought the whole of the mine for 3000*l.*, and that he had paid the deposit of 750*l.* "Please send me half; our agreement can be made afterwards," adding that if these were not to Mr. Tonge's satisfaction he would return Mr. Tonge half of the deposit. On the 18th Mr. Charlton, Mr. Tonge's solicitor, sent Mr. Cook a draft for 375*l.*, being the sum asked for, and it was sent by a banker's draft (of a Manchester bank), which did not disclose the name of the person on whose account the money was sent, and the letter enclosed also a form of receipt to be signed by Mr. Cook. On the 20th that draft was paid by Mr. Cook to his credit with Mr. Coode, but it did not show that it was money supplied by Mr. Tonge. On the same day Cook signed and returned the form of receipt, acknowledging having received from Richard Tonge 375*l.*, being half the deposit for the purchase of the mine, "the purchase to be taken in my name, but as trustee for one-half of the property, the terms to be settled by agreement." Subsequently certain letters passed which were not very material, until on the 13th June Mr. Cook wrote asking for the balance of 1125*l.*, being Mr. Tonge's half of the 2250*l.* payable in addition to the deposit. Then on the 20th Mr. Charlton sent to Cook an agreement for signature, and on the 22nd it was returned by Cook signed by him, and he asked for a banker's draft, which was sent on the 23rd and received on the 24th, and on the 24th that draft for 1125*l.* and some other sums, making together 1494*l.*, were paid by Cook into Coode's bank to his credit. Neither the draft nor the letter showed that any part of the money came from the hands of Mr. Tonge, but Cook sent Tonge a receipt for it as the balance of the purchase money. The document of the 22nd June showed very clearly the position of Cook and Tonge, and that Tonge was owner of one moiety. The next question was whether Mr. Shilson knew about it. What he said in his evidence was that in 1876, just before the deposit was paid, Cook asked him for an advance, saying that he had a prospective agreement with some friends, and that he was going to buy in his own name and pay for it, and that certain friends were afterwards going to take shares in the purchase, and that Mr. Tonge did not wish his name to be mentioned in connection with the transaction. And as to that, Cook himself said he did tell Mr. Shilson before the 15th May that after the matter was completed, there were others who would join with him in the formation of a new company. Looking at that evidence it seemed to his Lordship that there was nothing whatever to give Mr. Shilson any notice, at that time that there was any agreement between Cook and Tonge or anybody else, except an agreement that when the purchase was completed by him these friends should buy shares from him. If at that time he had not notice when did he get notice? It was said that he got it by letter in December, 1876. The purchase was completed on the 30th April. Mr. Shilson said that just before the 30th April Cook asked him to furnish the other part of the purchase money, and that, after some hesitation, he consented to do so upon Cook agreeing to give him the deeds as security for his account, and the cheque was paid on the 2nd of May and the deeds were brought by a clerk upon completion of the transaction. There was no doubt that the agreement was made that a security should be given at that time for the honouring of Cook's draft. A deliberate agreement had been made between Cook and Tonge, in which Tonge's interest was kept secret, and Tonge could not complain of any act which Cook did in respect of the property. There seemed, however, to his Lordship to be two distinct equities which gave Coode priority to Tonge. First, he got the deeds, and a strong equity arose in respect of Tonge keeping his name dark and putting Cook forward as the sole purchaser. What was the security given for? Counsel said at the bar that the security was for what was due, and what was to become due, from Cook to Coode and Shilson. What was to be expected was that the security should be given in return for the consideration received—for the advance, the obtaining of which was the condition of giving the security, but it was said by Cook that it was to secure what was due on the account at that time. His Lordship would not say that their claim was limited to that, they said it was also for what was to become due. In his Lordship's opinion it was not to be security for what was to become due. There was not a

syllable in the proceedings going to that point—it was not suggested for a moment that the security was to cover the floating balance of account from time to time, and he did not find one single word pointing to a bargain that it should be security for anything more than was due at the time. The printed form, also, which it was the practice to use when the bank was taking security for what was due and what was to become due, was not used in the present case, and it appeared that this particular advance was intended to be only of a temporary character, because as soon as the purchase was completed the shares were to be sold to other persons who were to pay for them, and he stipulated time after time that the money paid for these shares were to be paid by Cook to him. This was inconsistent with the proposition that these shares should have been sold until the whole balance due from Cook to the bank had been paid off. The conduct of the parties was inconsistent with that; the fourth paragraph said that the money was to be got from friends who were to buy their shares. Mr. Shilson's evidence was that as soon as the purchase was completed the money was to be got from those friends. He said that during the summer of 1877 he repeatedly pressed Cook to get the money from his friends. And in addition to that he did the same by letter, treating the property as if that was the claim upon it, and nothing else. The deposit of the deeds with the bank could not forcibly give them a larger security than the advance that was made at the time. In October the firm of Coode and Shilson applied to Cook, not for acknowledgment of existing security, but for further security, and they got a security of some policies which had not been deposited before, and they proceeded to take an equitable memorandum of 5th October, which was confirmed by the equitable mortgage of 2nd November, and that was upon all the documents then in their custody, and there was no doubt expressed that it should be security for all sums then due, and which should afterwards become due. His Lordship thought that Mr. Shilson was quite right when he said that his object at that time was pressing for further security, and requiring a mortgage of the securities they held, adding, "On the 5th October Cook was deeply indebted to us, we had some security before, but I wanted a complete schedule and an acknowledgment of them by Cook. I think my reason was that Cook was in bad circumstances, and I wanted to keep alive our previous equitable lien." The result, therefore, was, his Lordship said, that as far as the securing effected in April was concerned, that was a good charge for all that was then due on the account, and prior to the claim of Cook to a moiety of the property. Then in October this further securing was taken. At that time it was a security for all that was due at that date, and all that interest thereafter became due; but then the question was whether Coode had notice of the claim of Tonge before that, because if they had not they could not rely upon the security they took from Cook without consulting Tonge about it. The first thing relied upon was a letter written in May, three or four days after completion, by Tonge's solicitor, but Mr. Shilson says that he understood that letter to be written by Mr. Charlton, not as Tonge's solicitor, but as solicitor for the official liquidator. A little later that occurred which, to his Lordship's mind, was of much more importance. On the 19th June, the contract having been completed, the time had come at which Mr. Shilson's agreement was to be carried out, that certain persons were to acquire certain shares from Cook, and they wrote for information as to the names of those persons. Cook gave the name of Bachelor, Davis, Fry, and Tonge, and then correspondence passed between their solicitors and their London agents. Defendant's documents were submitted to counsel, and counsel raised the point that the preliminary conveyance by Cook to the parties named might be dispensed with if Cook made the transfer to the company direct in his position as trustee for the others; and the reply received to that objection was that Cook had paid the whole of the purchase-money was out of his own pocket. His Lordship said that it seemed to him, looking at these notices, that there was a clear notice to Shilson that there were agreements made with other persons of some standing which were to be carried out, and when they had notice of that it was for them to find out what it was or take the risk. What it came to was this, that after the notice of these agreements Coode and Shilson dealt with Cook at their own risk. The agreement was valid as against Cook, and therefore was equally valid as against Coode, who could only give them a charge upon what he had power to charge. He therefore held that Coode, Shilson, and Co. became entitled, on deposit of the deeds, to a charge upon the property for the money due to them, including the 1915*l.* paid by them on account of the purchase of the property, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum, and that the plaintiff was entitled to have one moiety of the property conveyed to him subject to such charge. His Lordship directed also that an account should be taken of what was due to Coode, Shilson, and Co., allowing costs, charges, and expenses properly incurred as mortgagees.

ASSAULT AT THE REDRUTH MINING EXCHANGE.

At the Camborne Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, before Messrs. D. W. Bain and G. J. Smith, magistrates, Mr. Curtis, of Camborne, innkeeper, was summoned by Mr. W. H. Rule for assaulting him at the Mining Exchange, Redruth, on the 2nd July.

Mr. Bodilly, Penzance, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. R. Daniell, Camborne, for the defendant.

Mr. BODILLY, in the opening case for plaintiff, stated that both the plaintiff and defendant were members of the Mining Exchange, Redruth, where the alleged assault was committed. It appeared that on the 2nd July the plaintiff was at Penzance, and returned by the last up-train to Redruth. Whilst at the Exchange it appears that Mr. Curtis, the defendant, was annoyed at some remarks made by the plaintiff, whereupon the defendant struck the plaintiff on the side of the face, afterwards hitting him on the arms with a walking stick. He should ask the Bench to put a stop to the annoyance caused by the defendant to the plaintiff by inflicting a fine, such as the circumstances of the case demanded, and also to bind over the defendant to keep the peace towards the plaintiff.

Mr. RULE (the plaintiff), on being sworn, said he was a mine and share broker, carrying on business at Camborne and Redruth, and was also a member of the Mining Exchange at Redruth, to which place he went every day. The defendant (Curtis) was also a member of the Exchange, and he (Rule) had in past years done much business for the defendant. It was on the 2nd July that he came by the last train from Penzance. He got out at the Redruth station, and immediately afterwards went into the Mining Exchange, where there were a good many members of the Exchange. The defendant was also there, but he did not notice him on entering. As he was coming up in the train he had a discussion, which, after doing a little business at the Exchange, was continued, at which time he was sitting near a table. Witness said something about "Mordecai," whereupon the defendant (Curtis) rose, and struck him on the side of the face with the hand. He then tried to defend himself with his stick. He received another blow from defendant on the arm. The marks of the blow he afterwards showed to the secretary of the Exchange. There was not much of a wrangle, as the assault only occupied a few minutes. He left the Exchange on the advice of the secretary, and proceeded to Camborne by the last down train. The plaintiff, in reply to Mr. Daniell, said he was not certain of the name of the gentlemen who came up in the train with him. One, he thought, was called Curry, nor did he know if the defendant got into the same carriage as himself on his arrival at Camborne. Mr. Daniell, solicitor, then questioned the plaintiff as to a certain pamphlet which had been circulated freely in the neighbourhood (i.e., "The Giant and the Jew," but which was not allowed to be read as evidence). The plaintiff admitted having seen the pamphlets, and said he had one in his possession. He had also given away a few, but had never had them printed. He had never done the defendant an unkind action in his life.

Mr. DANIELL enquired if the members of the Exchange had "pet" names?—PLAINTIFF: Yes. A good many (enumerating a large number).

Mr. T. DAVEY said he was an assayer, residing at Redruth, and was the secretary of the Mining Exchange at Redruth. He was present at the Exchange on the 2nd July. Mr. W. H. Rule was also there. He was near the fire-place, on the right-hand side

of the table, and the defendant Curtis was also there on the opposite side of the room. After the plaintiff (Rule) had made some expression about "Mordecai," Curtis said "If you use my name again I'll give you something," after which "they replied with sticks." They were then separated, witness putting plaintiff on the table, and Mr. Jarvis putting the defendant in the corner of the room. He advised Rule to go home, which he did, going down by the last down train. He heard Rule say "Mordecai" once.

Mr. DANIELL admitted that a slight assault on the plaintiff had been committed by defendant, but characterised the assault as mild and trivial, and one which never ought to have been brought into Court.

The Bench were, however, of the opinion that an assault had been committed, and nothing had been said to justify the action of the defendant (Curtis), and that members of the Exchange could not with impunity commit assaults on each other. The expenses in this case amounted to 18*s.* 6*d.*, and a farther fine of 6*s.* 6*d.* was inflicted, making altogether 25*s.*

A DERBYSHIRE COLLIERY CASE.

[SPECIAL REPORT.]

Mr. C. W. Roupell, official referee, and Mr. Jeffcock, of Sheffield, the assessor, have just concluded, at Derby, the taking of the evidence in an official reference in a mining action of considerable importance arising out of an alleged breach of agreement.

The plaintiff in the case is Mr. W. Drury-Lowe, J.P., of Lock's Park, near Derby, the owner of the Denby Colliery; and the defendants are the Messrs. Small, the lessees of the well-known Kilburn Colliery, which adjoins the plaintiff's mine. The plaintiff has been represented during the enquiry by Mr. E. Morton Daniel, barrister (instructed by Messrs. Taylor, Simpson, and Taylor, of Derby); and the defendants, at the commencement, by Mr. Hextall, barrister (instructed by Mr. Copson Peake, of Ripley), and latterly by Mr. F. Parker Rhodes, solicitor, of Rotherham. Damages were laid at 1800*l.*, and the alleged breach of agreement consisted in the defendant having failed to properly pump the water from his mine, where it accumulated and percolated down to the plaintiff's mine, as he had contracted to do. From the opening statement of counsel, it appears that the parties, as will have been already gathered, are the proprietors of two collieries which adjoin each other. Roughly speaking, they both lie on the slope of a hill, the defendants' mine being at the top and plaintiff's at the bottom. Both are old collieries, and have been worked for a great number of years. As long ago as 1863, owing to a mistake on the part of the persons who were Mr. Lowe's predecessors, they encroached into the boundaries of the Kilburn Colliery, but it was not until a good many years afterwards that the defendants, who had previously been working the rise, began to work down hill, and discovered the encroachment, and the consequence was that the barrier having been removed there was nothing to prevent the water which was made in the defendant's mine finding its way in the plaintiff's. Upon this discovery being made, which was somewhere about 1875, some sort of provisional arrangement was come to between the respective proprietors; but when Mr. Lowe came into possession in 1877 he attempted to put matters upon a more secure basis. In the end, after a great deal of negotiation, an agreement was entered into, which was summarised in the statement of claim as follows:—On the 3rd November, 1879, the defendants agreed in writing that in consideration of the annual payment of 725*l.* they would, as far as practicable, prevent water from Kilburn Colliery flowing into Denby Colliery. Payment was to be made quarterly, and the plaintiff or his manager was to have liberty to inspect the defendant's mine after each payment, and also upon any emergency that should arise. It was further provided that if any emergency should arise notice thereof should be immediately given to the plaintiff. A rider was attached to the agreement which provided for the agreement being more formally executed in the shape of a deed. The arrangement embodied in the rider, counsel continued, had never been carried out, because the parties were content to go upon the agreement, its terms being tolerably specific. Contemporaneously with the agreement the plaintiff added some additional pumping machinery in the deepest part of his pit, in order to deal with the small quantity of water which might occasionally flow from Kilburn, not out of any distrust of the agreement, but as a measure of precaution. Up to August, 1880, the defendants performed their pumping properly, and there was nothing to complain of, showing, counsel urged, that the defendants were quite able to perform their undertaking if they liked. But since then water had been coming, more or less, at intervals, and very frequent complaints had been made by plaintiff's manager, Mr. Mark Fryar, who was appointed in December, 1879, very shortly after the agreement was entered into. Although very desirous to avoid litigation the patience of the plaintiff was exhausted in December, 1882, when it was clear that something must be done, and a writ was issued. On the 26th of the previous October there had been another eruption of water, and notice was taken of the expense caused in dealing with it. It amounted to 21*l.* odd, and plaintiff's solicitors made a demand upon the Messrs. Small for that sum. The latter denied their liability, asserting, as they had often before done, that they were properly carrying out their contract, and a writ was issued for 50*l.* Then he (the learned counsel) was consulted, and he took upon himself the responsibility of advising that the claim should be enlarged so as to cover the whole of the loss that had been sustained. Counsel then went on to narrate the course of events after August, 1880, when the first eruption occurred. Repeated complaints were made by Mr. Fryar, and repeated promises made on the defendants' part, that they were doing everything they could to keep the water out, and at length, on March 5, 1881, Fryar wrote asking for an appointment for inspection, which was granted to him for the 11th, when he viewed the defendants' mine, accompanied by Mr. Hunt, his head deputy. Fryar then found that the water level at Kilburn passed in several places through the side of old workings or goaf, which had been permitted to fall down and become filled up with debris, which was of course unable to resist the water. He also found that the pipes were in very bad condition, and the water was escaping from them into the goaf, whence it would naturally find its way into Denby. He made a complaint then, and the answer was that he had nothing to complain of. On the 1st July there was another inspection, as far as to a point about 600 yards from the shaft, but beyond that the defendants' underwriter, Parkin, refused to permit them to go, and that the plaintiff alleged was a breach of that portion of the agreement which gave him power of inspection. On November 24, 1881, there was a breakdown of defendants' engine, of which notice was given, and on account of which there was a stoppage of 28½ hours, and the question would be for the Court whether or not it did not arise from the negligence of the defendants' men. There was another breakdown shortly afterwards, on the 3rd December, 1881, when a bucket got fast in the barrel of the pump, and a stoppage of 30 hours was caused in consequence, and which it was also alleged was caused by negligence. On the 5th December, the water began to find its way into Denby, and continued until the 15th. On the 3rd February, 1882, there was another breakdown of the Kilburn engine—again in consequence of negligence—and it did not start again for six days. On the 8th the water again came into Denby, and on the 10th it was there in full force. Then there were continual complaints, and it gradually decreased down to April 15, when it reached the lowest point it had been at since August, 1880. On the 27th October, 1882, however, the water again increased rapidly, and Fryar wrote asking for an inspection on the 28, which was point blank refused, and that was another occasion on which the plaintiff alleged breach of the agreement to inspect. He suggested that the defendants had very good reason for their refusal, inasmuch as Fryar would have found an opening wilfully made in the goaf through which the water escaped down to Denby, and that at the moment he proposed to go down people were at work closing the opening. From the 29th October, however, the water gradually decreased until it began to increase on the 6th November. On the 19th November, 1882, a breakdown of 33 hours occurred, and another on the 26th, which lasted 13 hours. On the 26th December, the water having kept on increasing, Fryar obtained an inspection with Hunt, and they then found that a new head had been driven through

a rather thin pillar of coal, and had been gobbled up with dirt, and the allegation about that was that it had been driven to get rid of water which naturally ran down the plaintiff's mine, and that it neutralised the effect of two dams which had been constructed to keep the water back, and was a secret evasion of the agreement. On the 30th December and 1st January Fryar went to the defendants for the purpose of taking levels, but was refused permission; but on the 4th he again went down, and from his observation then he saw it was quite clear that water went through the head into Denby. On the 5th he made a communication to the defendants to that effect, and asked them to build it up, and the reply he received was that it was water-tight. On the 17th January, 1883, Fryar and Hunt made another inspection in that part of the workings known as 41, which adjoined the goaf. They found the water there muddy as though it had recently been disturbed. They were proceeding to inspect down along the level, to a spot marked 41 on the plan. There, a square wooden pipe was used to conduct the water along the level, and behind it was some brick stopping. On examination they found a hole in the pipe concealed with mud, and behind it, in the brick stopping, a corresponding hole, or rather a place where a hole might be made by removing the bricks, through which it was possible for water to be turned into the goaf, from whence it found its way directly into Denby. That was a very striking discovery, and Parkin, the defendants' underviewer, who accompanied Fryar and Hunt, seemed very much disturbed with it. The plaintiffs would be able to prove in evidence that this hole existed previously on November 19, 1882. A person named Bell, who then in the employ of the defendants, and who was now in the service of the plaintiff, noticed the hole on that date and the water running down it, and it would be further proved that on the 20th and 21st November a lot of water came down into Denby. On the 19th January Fryar and Hunt again went down the defendant's pit, and they told Mr. George Small of the existence of the hole, which he did not deny, but said he had never ordered it to be made. Some correspondence took place on the subject, and on the 23rd, on the occasion of their going down again, Parkin refused them permission to again examine the hole. On a later date Fryar went to a place marked 49 on the plan, and at a point about 20 yards away they found an old working in which there had been a fall. The opening was bricked up, but in such a way that there also water could percolate into Denby. In conclusion, the learned counsel said the allegations of the plaintiff further was that the defendants' pump had not been worked up to its full power, and that the boiler provision was inadequate to the demand made upon it.

Mr. PARKER RHODES, in opening the case for the defendants, reserved his analysis of the evidence until his summing up. He said that the plaintiff rested his case entirely on the agreement of 1879. The question whether or not that agreement had been broken rested first, he said, on the construction the Court put upon that document, and, secondly, upon the view taken of the facts as presented by the evidence. With regard to the agreement, his friend seemed to look upon it in the light of an absolute guarantee, by which the plaintiff was bound at all hazard and at any price, to keep the defendants' colliery free and clear of water. That, he ventured to say was not the correct view. True, the agreement itself might have been made much more ample and complete than it was, but the Court had to deal with it as it stood. Mr. Rhodes then reviewed the agreement clause by clause, pointing out that the liability to pump was confined to conditions set forth within it; that the condition was inserted to the defendants' agreement "as far as practicable, and that the underground works which had been undertaken by the defendants for the purpose of keeping Denby clear of water were such as had been either designed or approved by the defendants' agent, and this latter condition was in itself a sufficient answer to the allegation made by the plaintiff's witnesses—that the underground works were insufficient. He further pointed out that by clause 5 no work could be demanded which would in any way, except so far as may be absolutely unavoidable, suspend or interfere with the usual working of Kilburn Colliery. With regard to the allegations that the breakdown of the pumping-engines was due to negligence, he said that there must be much more clear and particular proof of that than was given by the plaintiff before the Court could hold that there had been negligence. He contended also that under the clause for determining the agreement, and the rider combined, Mr. Lowe was competent at any time, if he felt himself aggrieved, to take absolute control of the Kilburn pumping arrangements. But there was another portion of the plaintiff's case to which he (Mr. Rhodes) felt to be of much greater importance, and that was that portion of it which alleged that the defendants had been guilty of wilful and deliberate fraud. The learned advocate then proceeded to comment upon Bell's evidence as to the hole in the pipe at considerable length. Dealing first of all with the allegation that the hole was wilfully made there by the defendants for the purpose of relieving themselves of water, he pointed out that Bell had alleged another opening at 49, a point lower down in the mine, and said that if that were true the defendants would have been fools to have made the hole in the pipe at 41, where the relief they would obtain was not large, when they could have used the opening at 49, or dam A, where they could have relieved themselves of water in a way extremely difficult of detection. Mr. Rhodes went on to comment upon the manner in which Bell's entries were made in his pocket-books, contending that it was clear they were not made at the time but subsequently, and were therefore unreliable as supporting his testimony. Proceeding to put before the Court the defendants' account of how the hole in the pipe came into existence, Mr. Rhodes said that eight or ten years ago there was a heavy fall in the level, the effect of which was to crush the pipes and prevent the flow of water. That was long before the agreement with Denby. A deputy, of the name of Wheatley, and three other men were sent to clear away the fall and make the level right. They found the water dammed up, and in order to get rid of the water so as to get at the fall Wheatley did what many others would probably have done so as to be able to work dryshod. He with his pick cut a hole in the wooden pipe, and then knocked some bricks out of the wall, so that the water could escape into the old gates. Having thus got rid of the water Wheatley blocked up the hole against the pipe, covered it over with soil, and left it, and it was not until the enquiry commenced, and the hole in the pipe was spoken about, that he reported the circumstance to the defendants, and gave the names of the persons who assisted him. Unfortunately, two of the men died before the commencement of the enquiry, and Wheatley died in consequence of an accident during an adjournment of the Court, and before his evidence could be tendered. Fortunately, however, one person was yet alive who was with Wheatley at the time, and he would be able to tell accurately what took place. Since that time although the level had been worked week by week, no one but Bell could be found who could say that the hole had been used to convey water into Denby, and the first date on which Bell could speak of the thing being done, although he had been travelling the level for some time, was in 1882. After remarking that the defendants felt very keenly the charge made against them of having practised a scandalous fraud, Mr. Rhodes went on to refer to the alleged identification of the Kilburn water in Denby by its being ochrey in colour, and said he should prove beyond a doubt that there was not a trace of ochre in the Kilburn water at all. In conclusion, he said that the plaintiff, from the moment he entered into this agreement, seemed to have lapsed into a state of happy security, trusting to the agreement and nothing else. But he should be able to show that the plaintiff's pumping engines were themselves quite inadequate, and that the increased water which flowed to Denby was due, not to Kilburn, but to the extraordinary rainfall which took place, and which preceded each complaint of the inrush of Kilburn water into Denby.

The taking of the evidence lasted until Friday, the 68th day of the case. The Court then adjourned until September, when counsel on each side will address the Court in concluding their cases.

TRAMWAYS.—The closing prices of this evening, as quoted by Mr. W. ABBOTT, of Tokenhouse-yard, are given in tabular form in the Stock and Share List page of the Journal.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.
CHANCERY DIVISION.—JULY 10.
(Before Mr. JUSTICE PEARSON.)
IN RE THE TRANSVAAL GOLD EXPLORATION AND LAND
COMPANY (LIMITED).

This was an application by motion on the part of four shareholders of the above company to be allowed to use the name of the company in prosecuting a claim against two gentlemen who were promoters and directors, and who were said to have received a large amount in money and shares from the vendors to the company, the applicants offering to give a proper indemnity to the company and the liquidators against costs. The company was formed in the year 1882. It has recently gone into voluntary liquidation for the purpose of reconstruction; and a new company has been registered with the same name for the purpose of taking over the assets and liabilities of the old company *en masse* under section 161 of the Companies Act, 1862. There are no ordinary creditors. The debenture-holders have consented to take debentures in the new company. There seem to have been some differences among shareholders as to whether the claim to recover promotion money should be prosecuted, and the liquidators called a meeting for the 1st of this month to consider the question. The notice convening the meeting stated that the liquidators had received a communication from the applicants' solicitors, suggesting that it was their duty as liquidators to contest the legality of certain pecuniary relations alleged to have existed between the vendors and two gentlemen who were concerned in the promotion and became directors; and asking for an assurance that, in the event of the liquidators deciding not to bring the action, they would give such shareholders an opportunity of applying to the Court for leave to bring an action either in their own names or in the names of the liquidators before signing any document or doing any other act that would prejudice making an application. That, on the other hand, the liquidators had received notice that the directors of the new company were prepared forthwith to accept transfer of the assets in terms of the special resolution that had been passed authorising the sale, and that any delay in the completion of the negotiations would prejudice the interests of the shareholders, and that they had received a communication from a shareholder claiming to represent others objecting to delay in closing the affairs of the company, and expressing disapproval of any litigation by the liquidators. That, under the circumstances, the liquidators had taken opinion of counsel, and while counsel advised that an action might be brought by the liquidators to enforce the return of the sum and shares above referred to, or at any rate a portion of it, with a probability of success, they also advised that it was not the duty of the liquidators to commence litigation against the wish of a majority of shareholders, and that if such majority were opposed to litigation the liquidators were not justified in exposing the assets to the risk of having to provide for costs. And that the liquidators were further advised not to enter into the agreement for transfer of the assets of the new company until the decision of a general meeting was ascertained. At the meeting 77 shareholders were present. A resolution was proposed, "That in the opinion of the meeting it was not expedient that proceedings should be commenced or sanctioned in the name of the company for recovery of the sums alleged to be payable to the company by directors or promoters of the company, and that the liquidators be, and they are hereby, directed to decline to commence or sanction such proceedings, and are instructed to proceed forthwith with the sale and transfer to the new company authorised by the special resolutions of the 17th of April and 5th of May, 1885." An amendment was moved to the contrary effect by one of the present applicants. The amendment was rejected by a majority of upwards of 70, and the original motion was carried, only two persons voting against it.

Mr. Cookson, Q.C., and Mr. J. T. Prior appeared for the applicants. They asked that the notice of motion might be amended, so that an order might be made preventing the handing over this asset (the claim against promoters) to the new company in order that the proceedings the applicants wished to take might not be avoided by such step.

Mr. Higgins, Q.C., and Mr. Latham opposed. Mr. Justice PEARSON, in stating the facts of the case, said he would assume for the purpose of his judgment that the money and shares were recoverable from the two gentlemen whose conduct was complained of. And, with respect to the meeting, he said nobody alleged, nor was there a particle of evidence to show, that the shareholders were acting in collusion with those gentlemen or were not giving their votes *bona fide* in their own interest. It was under those circumstances that the applicants came here, and said that the company being in voluntary liquidation the Court had really the control, and that, though the company had refused to prosecute the claim, the Court ought to require the liquidators to allow the use of the name of the company, they being willing and perfectly able to give the most satisfactory indemnity. He first would deal with the motion as it stood. The matter rested in this way. The company having agreed, by a large majority, to a reconstruction and assignment of its assets, the liquidators' duty was to proceed with the assignment, for it was a matter that did not brook delay, and when the assignment was carried out the new company became possessed of all choses in action of the old company, including the claim against the promoters, and the assignment would at once defeat an action brought in the name of the old company. But, independently of that, if the notice of motion was allowed to be amended, he thought it was admitted it was a case in which the old company had a right, if they pleased, honestly and fairly to determine that they would not prosecute the claim, and he thought he ought not to interfere in the matter. It was said he ought to allow the notice of motion to be amended, and prevent the liquidators from executing the agreement and handing over to the new company, at all events, this particular choses in action. He was, however, again met by the difficulty that the assignment had been authorised by the company, considering its interest that it should be made, and there was nothing to show that this was not taken into consideration, and that it was not agreed that this should be condoned and not prosecuted, or that if it were a valuable asset the new company were not to have the benefit. He could not in the case before him allow the use of the company's name, or interfere with so much discretion as the liquidators had in modifying the terms of the assignment, which he assumed must be a modification that would not interfere with the agreement, to the extent asked.

The motion was refused.

QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION.—JULY 16.
(Sittings in Banco, before Mr. Justice GROVE and Mr. Justice A. L. SMITH.)

ELLIOTT V. THE NAILSTONE COLLIERY COMPANY.

This action was tried at Leicester during the present Assizes on the 7th inst., and came before the Divisional Court this morning upon a motion for judgment, a fact which is very significant as to the state of business when it is remembered that the Court only sits twice a week during the circuits.

The plaintiff is a labourer in the employ of the Leicester Coal Consumers' Company, and the defendants are colliery-owners who supply coal to the plaintiff's employers. It appeared at the trial that in May, 1884, the defendants, in pursuance of an order from the Coal Consumers' Company, dispatched a truck of coal to them. The coal was loaded in a truck which the defendants had for some years hired from a wagon company, the arrangements as to repairs being that the defendants executed the ordinary repairs, but if anything more was necessary the wagon company undertook it. The truck, after a delay of six weeks on a siding of the railway, arrived at the Coal Consumers' Company's wharf, and the plaintiff was sent in the ordinary course of his employment to unload it. When the plaintiff got upon the truck for this purpose the trap-door at the bottom of the truck gave way and the plaintiff fell through the opening with a quantity of coal on the top of him, and was nearly killed. Upon the truck being examined it was found that a catch which was attached to a pin which fastened the hasp of the trap-door was

broken off, and that in consequence of this the pin had become liable to slip out of its place and let the trap fall, and it was also found that this state of things had existed for some months. The plaintiff subsequently brought this action against the defendants for damages, and the trial resulted in a verdict for him of 200*l.*, but judgment was not entered for him, the Judge, Mr. Baron Pollock, leaving the parties to move in order to discuss the point of law whether the defendants owed any duty to the plaintiff to provide a safe truck, the plaintiff not being in their employment or under any contract with them.

Mr. Sills and Mr. Toller appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. E. Lumley for the defendants.

Mr. Justice GROVE, in giving judgment in favour of the plaintiff, said that he thought the case was beyond doubt. The coal was sold by the defendants upon the terms that they should convey it, and they knew that when the truck arrived at its destination it must be unloaded, and that the purchasers would not unload it themselves, but would employ some person like the plaintiff to do it for them. It was, therefore, the duty of the defendants to send the coal in a truck that was in a proper state for the purpose to which it was put, and the fact that the defendants were hirers and not owners of the truck made no difference, they owed a duty to the class of persons who were to unload the truck that it should be in a safe condition for that purpose. Upon the evidence his Lordship said that it was clear that the defect which caused the accident existed before the truck was sent out by the defendants, and, therefore, the delay of six weeks on the journey did not affect their liability and if it could be said that the existence of this defect was due to the negligence of the wagon company from whom the defendants had hired it this did not exempt the defendants from their liability to the plaintiff.

Mr. Justice A. L. SMITH gave judgment to the same effect.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE.

COURT OF APPEAL.—JULY 11.

(Before the MASTER of the ROLLS, Lord Justice BAGGALLAY, and Lord Justice FRY.)

IN RE AVONDALE PAPER COMPANY (LIMITED)—APPEAL
OF J. H. COLLINS.

The appeal in this case was from the decision of Mr. Justice Chitty placing Mr. Collins upon the list of contributories, the company being in liquidation. Messrs. Collins and Norfolk were manufacturers of china-clay, which is used in making paper. One Ellis was an agent for the company, and he placed himself in communication with Collins, endeavouring to persuade him to take shares in the company, and holding out as an inducement that he would procure orders for china-clay in return. The application for shares was signed by Ellis, Collins having written to him to apply for them, and later Ellis sent Collins a form of application to fill up himself. An allotment of shares having been made, and notice of it given, Mr. Collins at once repudiated the allotment. The contention for Mr. Collins that he should be taken off the list of contributories went upon the ground that the authority to Ellis to apply for shares was coupled with a condition that in return Collins should receive orders for china-clay, which condition was not fulfilled; further, that it must be inferred that the authority given to Ellis was repudiated by him, because he told Collins to fill up the form of application himself.

At the conclusion of Mr. WHITEHORNE'S argument, and without calling upon counsel for the respondents, Their LORDSHIPS dismissed the appeal.

The MASTER of the ROLLS said this was a plain case. If Collins applied for shares it was through Ellis. Was, then, Ellis his agent? Ellis was the agent of the company to get business done. In order to persuade Collins to become a shareholder he enticed him by saying that if he would become a shareholder he would do business with him. Collins wanted to pay for the shares in clay, but Ellis told him that could not be, but said he would personally help him by paying for him, and taking a bill at three months. Upon that the appellant wrote, and said—"Apply for shares for me." The authority was to take shares to be paid for in money, with an independent contract to take clay. But it was said the authority was offered, but not accepted. In fact, it was accepted before it was withdrawn. It was clear that Ellis exercised the authority, but sent the form to Collins, and said, "Fill it up yourself." The application was made upon authority not retracted, and the appellant was liable to be placed upon the list of contributories.

Lord Justice BAGGALLAY and Lord Justice FRY concurred.

Appeal dismissed.

Mr. Whitehorne, Q.C., and Mr. Buckley were for the appellant; Mr. Romer, Q.C., and Mr. Upjohn for the liquidator.

COURT OF APPEAL.—JULY 15.

(Before Lords Justices COTTON, LINDLEY, and BOWEN.)

IN RE SWIRE—MELLOR V. SWIRE.

This was an application of an unusual character upon a very important point of practice, it being a motion to vary an order of the Court of Appeal, notwithstanding it had been duly passed and entered. The action is an administrative action relating to the estates of a testator who was possessed of valuable collieries. The order in question was made on an appeal relating to the question whether the tenant for life was entitled to the profits of the collieries, or whether the remainder-men were entitled to have them accumulated for the benefit of the estate, as being wasting property. The Court of Appeal on June 17 pronounced an order in favour of the tenant for life. The order was passed and entered on July 9; as so passed it particularised collieries, including collieries purchased since the testator's death.

Mr. RIGBY, Q.C., and Mr. HAMILTON HUMPHREY, for persons entitled contingently in remainder, who had the conduct of the action, made the application. They contended that the order, as drawn up, went beyond the order actually pronounced, and that the Court had inherent jurisdiction over its own records to correct them.

Mr. MARTIN, Q.C., and Mr. FARWELL, for the tenant for life, insisted that the Court had no jurisdiction to amend the record. Mr. Miller, Q.C., and Mr. E. S. Ford appeared for the trustees of the will.

Lord Justice COTTON was of opinion that any Court had jurisdiction over its own records to correct them, and make the record be the real order which the Court pronounced. He was of opinion that the order on the record went beyond the order pronounced, and that there might be a question whether the tenant for life was entitled to all that the order in its present form gave the tenant for life; and he was of opinion that the order should be allowed on certain terms as to payment of costs by the applicant.

Lord Justice LINDLEY was of the same opinion. He said there was no such magic in passing an order as to deprive the Court of jurisdiction over its record to make it a true record. It would be shocking that the party injured should be obliged to go to the House of Lords by way of appeal to set the matter right. He pointed out how, under the old Chancery practice, a decree could be varied until enrolment, and that even after enrolment the enrolment could be vacated. He considered the power was not taken away by the Judicature Act and rules.

Lord Justice BOWEN said it was not for him to speak of the practice in the Court of Chancery, but it had been in the Common Law Courts the practice for 500 years, where necessary and right, to alter its records. The record could always be amended in term time, and even after term it could be amended on proper occasions. He was of opinion that, independently of the rules, the Court had jurisdiction, and it was not necessary to fall back on the rules, though he thought such a rule might be found.

TASMANIA.—Two miners, Watson and another, from the Rocky river on the West Coast, arrived at Waratah, Tasmania, lately, en route for Launceston, with about 150 ozs. of gold; one nugget weighing 4 lbs. Watson and party found the second largest nugget ever obtained in the Colony a year ago, also at Rocky river. The news has caused a sensation in Launceston, and will lead to further prospecting.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, JULY 7.

(Present—Lord MONKSWELL, Lord HOBHOUSE, Sir BARNES PEACOCK, and Sir RICHARD COUCH.)

FURNESS'S PATENT.

This was a petition for the prolongation of letters patent granted on the 15th of September, 1871, for the usual term of 14 years, in respect of an invention by Mr. H. D. Furness, engineer, of Whickham, Durham, of an improved method of lubricating the cylinders and valves of locomotives and other engines.

Mr. Aston, Q.C., and Mr. Goodave were counsel for the petitioners; the Attorney-General and Mr. R. S. Wright for the Crown.

The invention related to an apparatus now commonly known as the "Furness Lubricator," which is applicable to locomotive steam-engines, and serves to lubricate automatically the cylinders of such engines, while the steam is shut off. The difficulty ordinarily caused by the grinding and wearing of moving surfaces, is claimed to be prevented, and accidents are avoided. The inventor, Mr. Furness, died in 1880, and his widow afterwards assigned the letters patent to Messrs. J. C. Wilson and Co., brassfounders in Glasgow. A large amount of time had been devoted to, and considerable sums expended in, introducing the lubricator to public use, and as the merits of the invention became more fully known the sales had increased, but the petitioners alleged that neither the inventor nor they, as assignees, had obtained sufficient and proper remuneration for the great utility of the invention, and for the care and attention devoted to promoting it. For these reasons they applied for a prolongation of the letters patent.

Mr. ASTON opened the case in support of the petition at some length, submitting that the invention was one of undoubted utility and merit, and that the petitioners had not received adequate remuneration, having regard to the meritorious nature of the patent.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, on the part of the Crown, argued that on the accounts the rate of remuneration had been such that it would be a serious question for the consideration of their lordships as to whether there had not been sufficient remuneration.

Dr. HOPKINSON, F.R.S., and other witnesses, were examined by Mr. ASTON on the part of the petitioners, and gave evidence as to the meritorious nature of the invention.

At the conclusion of the arguments, Lord MONKSWELL, in giving the judgment of their lordships, observed that it appeared to them that the invention was one of merit and utility, and proceeded to say that the question came to this—whether, having regard to the merit of the invention, their lordships were able, in the words of the last Patent Act, to report to Her Majesty that the patentee had been inadequately remunerated. Unless they could make such a report Her Majesty could not prolong the patent. His lordship having referred to the accounts said, in conclusion, that it appeared to their lordships that they were unable to say that the patentee had been inadequately remunerated, and, therefore, they were unable to advise Her Majesty to grant a prolongation.

LEASING OF WASTE LANDS.

In the Chancery Division, on Saturday—before Mr. Justice Kay—was heard the case of Hughes v. the Carnarvonshire Slate Company. This was a petition under the Settled Estates Act, 1877, asking that the sanction of the Court to an agreement to lease to the defendant company certain waste land situate in Carnarvonshire—entered into by plaintiff's predecessor in title—might be binding.

Mr. GRAHAM HASTINGS, Q.C., who appeared in support of the petition, stated that when this petition came before his lordship a fortnight ago, his lordship expressed himself satisfied with what was proposed to be done, provided the evidence of a surveyor was obtained to show that the proposal was the best in the circumstances of the case. The agreement which the Court was asked to sanction was to lease to the defendant company, for a term of 30 years, at an annual rent of 20l., certain waste land remaining along the edge of the defendants' quarries, on which the defendants had constructed a tramway connecting their works with the railway. He now had the evidence of Mr. Richard James Davies, land surveyor and valuer, of Carnarvonshire, which showed that the agreement that had been entered into between the parties was most beneficial; that a great portion of the land in question was rough and of little value for agricultural purposes, and, in his (Mr. Davies) opinion, would not produce as much rent if let to any other person except the company. The rent of 20l. a year was the highest that could reasonably be obtained for it.

His Lordship made the order as prayed.

AN inquest was held on Thursday, July 9—before Mr. E. Hooper, Coroner—at the King's Head, Elbow-street, Old Hill, relative to the death of John Naylor (27), miner, who was killed whilst working in the Ridding Colliery, on the 7th inst. Mr. W. B. Scott, Government Inspector, and Mr. Pickering, assistant Inspector, were present. The colliery proprietors were represented by Mr. Waldron, of Brierley Hill. Zachariah Harris deposed that he was in the employ of the Ridding Colliery Company (Limited). He went down the pit where the accident happened on Monday night, in company with John Naylor. They were the only two at work in the pit. He saw Naylor lying upon the ground "holeing" when a great quantity of "lommey" fell upon him, and completely covered him. He ran to the bottom of the pit and shouted for assistance, but failed to obtain a hearing. There was no signal bell, and had not been one since he commenced to work at the pit, which was on Friday last. It was about half-past two when the accident happened, and he remained at the bottom of the shaft until two of the miners came at seven o'clock next morning. There was a bankman at the top of the pit when deceased and himself went down, but he did not stay there throughout the night. He thought at the time he went down that the engineer and bankman would remain there. In reply to Mr. Scott, witness said Naylor had "holed" under about 3 ft. He had been at work for three hours and a half, and during that time he had never put a tree up.—Thomas Priest stated that he was deputy at the Ridding Colliery. He left the pit on Monday night, and on Tuesday morning, when he descended again, he found that a great fall of clay had taken place. He had left a man named Westwood in charge of the pit on the Monday night, but it was understood that he would leave the place a few hours afterwards.—Mark Priest deposed to being on duty as watchman at the top of the pit from 6 P.M. to 6 A.M. He heard the boy shout up the shaft in the night, but could not make out what he said. In answer to the Coroner, witness said the signals had been broken for two or three days.—Mr. W. H. Pickering said he examined the pit on Wednesday, and found the earth had fallen through a slip. The timber was placed about 5 ft. from the back of the "holeing." The Act of Parliament had not been infringed, but his opinion was that, owing to the nature of the roof, more timber should have been used.—In summing up, the Coroner said he had held office for more than 30 years, and he did not think he had come across a worse case. A more disgraceful occurrence had not been heard of for years. He hoped the Inspector would take the most rigid steps he possibly could.—The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death," and added a rider to the effect that it was their opinion that the person in charge ought to have been down the pit when the man lost his life, and they considered the owners were most blameable in not providing sufficient signalling apparatus, and also for not having the engineer at his post. They requested the Inspector to take the most stringent measures that the law allowed him to take.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S DIAMOND MINE (Limited).—In a letter dated June 19, the managing director at Kimberley reports that sinking the 500 ft. shaft had that day been commenced by Mr. Kenrick, who had taken the contract. The shaft is 10 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft. 6 in., and it is estimated that it will be sunk at the rate of 50 ft. per week. The Allen claims in the De Beer's Mine which, after long working of the top "blue" at a loss, were offered for sale at 15,000l., without a purchaser, were now at a depth of 450 ft., being worked at a profit of 1000l. per week, and were held at 250,000l. These claims were not so rich at a depth of 350 ft. as the St. Augustine's at 80 ft., and the latter mine, therefore, may probably be found in rich "pay" ground within the next six weeks.

Provincial Stock and Share Markets.

CORNISH MINE SHARE MARKET.—Mr. S. J. DAVEY, mine share-dealer, Redruth, writes under date July 16:—Prices have not changed very much in our market this week, and business has not been brisk. Wheal Agar is up 20s., and Dolcoath 20s., but Wheal Bassett and West Frances are lower. Following are prices:—Blue Hills, 19s. to 21s.; Carn Brea, 3 to 3½; Cook's Kitchen, 8½ to 9; Dolcoath, 7½ to 7¾; East Blue Hills, 1½ to 2; East Pool, 45 to 46; Killfret, 12s. to 14s.; New Cook's Kitchen, ¾ to ¾; New Kitty, ¾ to ¾; Pen-and-drea, ¾ to ¾; South Condurrow, 7 to 7¼; South Crofty, 3½ to 4¼; South Wheal, 8½ to 9½; Tincroft, 6½ to 7; West Bassett, 2 to 2½; West Frances, 8½ to 9½; West Kitty, 7 to 7½; West Wheal Seton, 6 to 6½; Wheal Agar, 19½ to 20; Wheal Bassett, 8 to 8½; Wheal Grenville, 10 to 10½; Wheal Kitty (St. Agnes), ½ to ¾; Trevaunance, 2 to 2½; Polberro, 2 to 2½.

Mr. M. W. BAWDEN, Liskeard, writes under date July 16:—The mining market has shown an improvement during the week, with buyers of good dividend and progressive stock on the steady advance of tin, and most shares are firmly held for higher prices. Closing quotations subjoined:—Bedford United, ¾ to ¾; Blue Hills, 1½ to 1½; Carn Brea, 3 to 3½; Cook's Kitchen, 8½ to 9; Dolcoath, 7½ to 7¾; Devon Consols, 2½ to 2½; East Blue Hills, 1½ to 1½; East Caradon, ¾ to ¾; East Pool, 45 to 46; Glasgow Caradon, 1½ to 1½; Gunnislake (Clitters), ¾ to ¾; Killfret, 12s. to 13s.; Marko Valley, 3s. to 4s.; Pen-and-drea United, ¾ to ¾; Phoenix United Mines, 1½ to 1½; Prince of Wales, 8s. to 9s.; South Caradon, ¾ to ¾; South Condurrow, 7 to 7¼; South Crofty, 3½ to 4¼; South Frances, 9 to 9½; Tincroft, 6½ to 7; Trevaunance Consols, 1½ to 1½; West Bassett, 2 to 2½; West Frances, 8½ to 9½; West Kitty, 7½ to 7¾; West Phoenix, 2s. to 2s.; West Seton, 6 to 6½; Wheal Agar, 19½ to 20; Wheal Bassett, 8 to 8½; Wheal Grenville, 10 to 10½; Wheal Kitty, ¾ to ¾; Wheal Polberro, 2 to 2½.

Messrs. ASBOTT and WICKETT, stock and sharebrokers, Redruth, write under date July 16:—The market has been firm this week, and a good business has been done in Dolcoath up to 74, but in consequence of a weak tin market prices have been slightly lower to day. East Pool meeting was very satisfactory, and shares have been scarce. West Kittys rather dearer. Closing quotations herewith:—Blue Hills, 1 to 1½; Carn Brea, 3 to 3½; Cook's Kitchen, 8½ to 9; Dolcoath, 7½ to 7¾; East Blue Hills, 1½ to 1½; East Pool, 45 to 46; Killfret, 12s. to 14s.; New Cook's Kitchen, ¾ to ¾; Pen-and-drea, ¾ to ¾; South Condurrow, 7 to 7¼; South Crofty, 3½ to 4¼; South Frances, 9 to 9½; Tincroft, 6½ to 7; Trevaunance Consols, 1½ to 1½; West Bassett, 2 to 2½; West Frances, 8½ to 9½; West Kitty, 7½ to 7¾; West Phoenix, 2s. to 2s.; West Seton, 6 to 6½; Wheal Agar, 19½ to 20; Wheal Bassett, 8 to 8½; Wheal Grenville, 10 to 10½; Wheal Kitty, ¾ to ¾; Wheal Polberro, 2 to 2½.

Mr. JOHN CARTER, mine share-dealer, Camborne, writes under date July 16: The Cornish share market has been firmer this week, with dealings in Dolcoath, East Pool, Wheal Agar, South Frances, Cook's Kitchen, West Seton, and West Kitty at higher prices. Wheal Bassett, South Condurrows, and East Blue Hills are offered at lower prices. At close of our market to-day a quiet tone again prevails at the annexed quotations:—Blue Hills, 19s. to 20s.; Carn Brea, 3 to 3½; Cook's Kitchen, 8½ to 9; Dolcoath, 7½ to 7¾; East Blue Hills, 1½ to 1½; East Pool, 45 to 46; Killfret, 12s. to 14s.; New Cook's Kitchen, ¾ to ¾; Pen-and-drea, ¾ to ¾; South Condurrow, 7 to 7¼; South Crofty, 3½ to 4¼; South Frances, 9 to 9½; Tincroft, 6½ to 7; Trevaunance Consols, 1½ to 1½; West Bassett, 2 to 2½; West Frances, 8½ to 9½; West Kitty, 7½ to 7¾; West Phoenix, 2s. to 2s.; West Seton, 6 to 6½; Wheal Agar, 19½ to 20; Wheal Bassett, 8 to 8½; Wheal Grenville, 10 to 10½; Wheal Kitty, ¾ to ¾; Wheal Polberro, 2 to 2½.

MANCHESTER.—Messrs. JOSEPH R. and W. P. BAINES, stock and share brokers, Queen's Chambers, Market-street, write under date July 16:—The past week has furnished but a small number of transactions up to the excitement of which more anon—of yesterday and to-day, the arrangement of the account having, as usual, restricted operations during the settlement which began on Monday, and nominally finished yesterday. Though in some cases dividend rumours have had an adverse effect on prices, on the whole bull operators have held nearly all their own way, led by Brighton Deferred, which on the prospect of an advanced dividend, as compared with last year, and a determined "bull" effort, advanced rapidly, many other stocks following in their wake. No doubt the continued cheapness of money assists such operations, and as the weather kept very fine and the political outlook was unclouded the rise was sharp and almost uninterrupted. Early yesterday afternoon, however, tidings of a Russian advance on Zulifer came, and immediately figures fell away very rapidly. Brighton Deferred, which had previously been most spirited, again leading the way, but this time in an opposite direction to that of the former portion of the week followed by almost all quoted stocks in a greater or less degree. Still the news was believed by many to be merely a canard, but in Parliament it was found that similar tidings or news to a like effect had reached the Government, but without details. To-day, however, things have steadied somewhat, and Brightons have again recovered sharply, affected similarly by above-named influences. Consols have receded, and show a fall of ½ on the week, though they had exhibited some advance, having gone over 94 again before the scare. Russians, as might be expected, are lower, and most other foreign funds, though many of them mark some improvement from the lowest prices touched under the influence of the shock. Colonial Government Bonds do not show any notable changes. Corporation stocks, &c., are better in the majority of cases where alterations have taken place, the only exception being Liverpool 3½ per cent., which is ½ down. Miscellaneous business is small, but prices as a whole fairly steady.

BANKS, though quiet, are fairly firm. Higher—Bank of Liverpool, ¼; Lancashire and Yorkshire, ¼; Manchester and County, ¼; and Manchester and Salford, ¼. Lower—Union of Manchester, ¼ to ½; and Oldham Joint Stock, ¼.

INSURANCE still quiet, but tone of market good. Alterations of quotations are not numerous, and the balance is favourable. COAL, IRON, &c., AND MINING.—Business very meagre. Bolckows, Nant-y-glo, and Blaith preference; Panullicillo and West Cumberland easier. Great Laxey Lead, ¼; John Brown's, ¼; and Rio Tinto ¼ better.—COTTON SPINNING, &c., little change to report, the market being about steady.—TELEGRAPHIC CABLES: United and Liverpool, ¾ in Western and Brazilian, and ¾ in India.—TELEPHONES: United and Liverpool and Cheshire again steady, and—MISCELLANEOUS have produced very few dealings, and movements in prices do not call for special mention, being few and unimportant.

RAILWAYS.—Although fresh business has been in some degree interfered with by the settlement operators for the rise in most of the speculative stocks have had a merry time of it during the greater portion of the week. Brighton A's have been rapidly pushed upward on anticipations, which have been realised on advance companies with last year on the ordinary dividend. South-Eastern A's have contrary experience have suffered somewhat, their ordinary dividend showing ½ worse than last year. The feature of the week, however, is the big tumble that occurred yesterday afternoon on disquieting news from Afghanistan, the suddenness and extent of the decline on the tidings to hand being taken by some to evidence the lack of public participation in the recent rapid rise. In Canadian Grand Trunks, though returning another heavy decrease in traffic, are, in sympathy with Americans, and the ostensible cause of rise in them, rather better on the week. Americans continue to ascend on the other side of the water, and to increase of freight; but the opinion is in many minds very firmly held that neither present state of prospect of trade in America warrant the advance and caution in following the market is deemed advisable.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Mr. S. N. CHALLONER, stock and share broker, 62, Grey-street, writes under date July 16:—Coal, Iron, and Copper: Barrow Steel Ordinary, 4½ to 4½; Six per Cent. Preference, 7 to 8; Bede Metal 5 to 6; Bolckow, Vaughan (20l. paid), ¼ lower at 14 to 14½; ditto 12l. paid, ¼ at 6½ to 6½; Five per Cent. Preference are 17½ to 18; Conssett Iron, 17½ to 18½; Conssett Spanish Ore, 4½ to 4½; C. Cammell and Co., 75½ to 76½; Darlington Iron, Ordinary, 24s. to 26s.; Seven per Cent. Preference, 3½ to 4½ ex div.; Earle's Shipbuilding, 14 to 14½; Ebbw Vales, 4 to 4½; John Abbot and Co., 47 to 50; John Brown and Co., 59½ to 60½; Marbella Iron, 4s. higher at 51s. to 52s.; Mason and Barry are 8½ to 9½; Moss Bays, 10 to 11; North Lincolnshire Iron, 29 to 31; Pellet's Coal, 2 to 3; Panullicillo Copper, 12½ to 13½; Palmer A., 22½ to 23; B. 14½ to 14½; River Tyne Dry Dock, ¾ to ¾; Rio Tinto, 10½ to 10½; Steel Company of Scotland, 7½ to 8; Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell's, 135 to 138; Sommersroths Iron Ore, 12 to 16; Tees-side Iron Ordinary, 5s. to 6s. 3d.; ditto Preference, 25s. to 25s.; Tharsis, 39s. to 39s. 6d.; West Cumberland Iron, 2½ to 2½; Miscellaneous: Hartlepool Gas and Water, A, 8½ to 8½; B, 7½ to 8½; C, 7½ to 7½; D, 14½ to 15½; D (7l. paid) at 9½ to 10½; Newcastle Water Stock, 198 to 200; Gateshead Tram, 3½ to 4; High Gosforth Park, 12 to 15; Langdales, ¼ to 2½; Lawley's Ordinary, 4½ to 4½; Preference, 19 to 19½; Newcastle Chemicals, 16s. to 20s.; Northern Accident, 25s. to 27s.; North-Eastern Bank, 6½ to 6½; Sadler, B. 10½ to 10½; C, 5 to 6; Tyne Steam Shipping, 12½ to 12½; Cashwell Lead Mining, 30s.; Green Hurth, 4½ to 5½; Healeyfield, 10s. to 12s.; North Green Hurth (12s. 6d. paid) 2s. to 4s.

SCOTCH MINING AND INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES SHARE MARKETS.

STIRLING.—Mr. J. GRANT MACLEAN, stockbroker and ironbroker (July 16), writes:—During the past week the markets have continued quiet. The easy state of the money market, favourable weather, and low prices of stocks are in favour of an improvement, but the unfavourable Afghan news may check a recovery.

In shares of coal, iron, and steel companies there has been more business doing. Marbellas improved to 53s., on an expected improvement in their half-yearly report; it appears the low freight to America are enabling this company to do better. Cardiff and Swansea are at 30s. to 35s., West Cumberland 50s. to 55s.

In shares of foreign copper concerns prices are steady. Tharsis have been sold from 95s. to 100s., Bratsbergs 15s. to 17s. Mason and Barry and Rio Tinto both easier.

In shares of home mines the principal alteration is an advance in lead shares. The Glasgow Caradon is continuing to improve its position. The next sale will be 120 tons. From the Mounta Bay report just issued it appears they have come to an end of their capital, and propose amalgamation with the East Wheel Rise, Old Shepherds, and Trevaunance. The shares are firm, and the market for the metal continues to improve. Andersons are at 2s. 6d.; Carn Camborne, 2s. 6d.; Devon Friendships, 5d.; Ecton, 18s. to 20s.; East Wheel Rise, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Frongoch, 5s. to 7s. 6d.; Goulinen, 2s.; Goulinen, 2s. 6d.; Holywell District, 7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.; Leadhills, 35s. to 40s.; Mounta Bay, 1s. to 2s.; Marko Valley,

2s. 6d.; New Kitty, 15s. to 17s. 6d.; North Blue Hills, 1s.; New Caradon, 1s. 6d.; New West Caradon, 2s. to 5s.; Old Shepherds, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; Prince Royal, 3s. to 5s.; Parya, 5d.; South Darren, 5s. to 6s.; Treagontrees, 2s.; Trevaunance, 2s. to 5s.; Trevaunance, 30s. to 35s.; Wearside, 20s. to 25s.; West Phoenix, 1s. 6d.; West Seton, 6 to 6½; Wheal Crobar, 15s. to 2s.; Wheal Crobar, 1s. to 2s.; Wheal Grenville, 10½ to 10½; Wheal Kitty, 12s. 6d. to 15s.; and Wheal Polberro, 2s.

In shares of gold and silver mines there has not been much business doing. Montanas have improved from 35s. 3d. to 39s.; Gold Hills wanted. Balkis are still dull at 1s. to 1s. 3d.; Koloboro easier at 2s. to 2s. 6d.; the last reports from this mine are favourable; it is now said to be on a paying basis, and likely to do better. A satisfactory report has also been received from Mr. Reuben Rickard, who for so many years managed the Richmond Mine, and paid large dividends. Cankim Bamoo, 1s. to 2s.; California, 2s. to 3s.; Effueta, 2s.; Gold Coast, 1s. to 2s.; Glenbrook, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; La Plata, 4s. 9d.; Lishou-Berlyn, 1s. to 2s.; Mysore Reef, 9d.; New Chile, 3s. to 4s.; New Ollano, 2s. 6d.; Oscar Vendors, 5s. to 7s.; Schwab's Gully, 57s. 6d. to 62s. 6d.; and Victoria, 3s. to 4s.

In shares of oil and miscellaneous companies prices are generally better, owing to a relapse in the petroleum market in America. Lanark Oils have declined to 47s. 3d., and Midlothian to 40s.; Home Mines Trust, 13s. to 15s.; "Laws" Chemicals, 4 to 4½; Nobel's Explosives about 16½.

EDINBURGH.—Messrs. THOMAS MILLER and SONS, stock and share brokers, Princes-street, write under date July 15:—Railway (ordinary) stocks, after some advance, have this afternoon relapsed, on rumours of a Russian advance in Afghanistan. Canadians and Americans have risen ostensibly from the quotations at which they stood a week ago on the announcement that an agreement has been come to to advance the eastward rates on grain. Bank stocks have been in some instances enquired for at higher prices. Bank of Scotland has risen 50s. and British Linen 40s. In mortgage shares Australasian, Northern Investment, Otago and Southland, Scottish and New Zealand, and Scottish American Mortgage all show some improvement. American Mortgage of Scotland have receded 1s. 6d. Canada North-West Land have been enquired for at an advance. Oil shares are, on the whole, lower, but Dalmeny have risen 10s.

WATSON BROTHERS MINING CIRCULAR.

WATSON BROTHERS, MINEOWNERS, STOCK AND SHARE DEALERS, &c., 1, ST MICHAEL'S ALLEY, CORNHILL, LONDON.

THE VAGARIES OF LODES.

In Mr. Watson's Compendium of British Mining, published in 1843, a full description was given of the various lodes and cross-courses that produce ore in mines. In 1861, in the Cornish Notes, published first in the Mining Journal, and then as a pamphlet, after visiting the different mines, and consulting and conversing with some of the first miners of the day, the writer remarked (page 27)—"There is something very puzzling even to the most practical of miners in the vagaries of lodes or mineral veins, and they become still more perplexing and unaccountable to the casual observer. I go to one mine and I find the lode is rich for copper in the granite, and that it becomes poor and split up as it enters the killas or clay-slate. At another mine the lode yields copper in the killas and becomes impoverished as it enters the granite. At another I see a dark killas which is everything that can be desired, and at the next 'light blue' is the only genuine colour, and the favourite. I hear of dykes, cross-courses, caunter lodes, elvans, and all sorts of strata, stratifications, and funny things, and I try to reduce them to something like order in my mind, though they seem to have very little order or arrangement in the bowels of the earth." These remarks have been recalled to mind by a section of West Kitty now before us, which shows us one of the greatest vagaries of all. But let us not be misunderstood—West Kitty is a rich mine, and will for a long time we hope make large returns and pay good dividends; though, when we referred a few weeks ago to a fact which we had supposed was known to all the shareholders, our remarks, it would seem, were viewed in anything but a favourable light in some quarters. We are deeply interested in the district, and wish success to every mine in it, but when we were told some weeks ago that East Blue Hills might fail in depth as West Kitty had done, we replied that the lode at West Kitty had neither failed nor cut out at the 80, but simply dipped away out of the sett at that depth. We were only wrong in saying that it dipped into another mine instead of into or under the sea.

The lode at West Kitty is what is called a contact lode made up with regular and hard walls. It was, we believe, first cut by a cross-cut 60 fms. long at the 30. It then instead of going down like an ordinary lode perpendicularly with the regular dip underlay very fast north, each level getting nearer the shaft until at the 70 it passed through it, and continued running horizontally (a very rich course of ore) for upwards of 50 fms. towards the sea. The shaft was continued to the 80 or the 84, and a level was driven under this course of ore more than 52 fms., and two rises have been put to reach it. The first rise went up about 7 fms. to the lode, the second about 5 fms. There are other vagaries in this very rich lode, the most singular being that there are only about 7 ft. of backs between the 70 and 80, owing, we suppose, to its general irregularity and richness.

It is many years ago since we first called attention to the "Red river" in Cornwall, it being in fact the flow of tinstuff from the rich group of mines in Camborne, &c. At that time squatters abounded along its source, and were making large sums annually from the sand and slime that washed down into it from the tin mines; just as at Great Vorand other mines, their waste tin, when tin was not so well dressed as now, ran into the Flow (Metal and Flow), and settled there, years and years ago, and only wanted water to pulverise and return it, and the water will now come from Metal shaft.

In the Report from Cornwall in last Saturday's Journal, the Red river is again referred to, the superior wealth of it being a substantial fact. There are at the present time, it is said, 29 works upon it, and 861 people are employed in reworking the tinsand and slime which escapes from the mines—those of Dolcoath and others in the neighbourhood.

The report of D'Eresby this week is the best we have had for some time past, and shows the shaft is getting into a good bed of ore.

At Prince Royal men have been put in the shallow adit near East Blue Hills boundary to search for the lode, also in the eastern part of the sett, where an adit was driven in the Baldu lode, and tin sold from it by old workers. Thus we hope soon to hear of good news from the mine. There are no shares to be had that we are aware of.

We have received several letters asking us the reason for the fall in East Blue Hills shares. There is in reality no "reason." There is no change in the mine, and the engine which has been some time in course of erection will go to work next week, which is important, and we hope and expect that the engine and extra stamps referred to last week will be purchased and got to work without any call upon the shareholders. When at work, large profits will be made should the mine continue as at present. We have all along endeavoured to keep the true state and position of the mine before our readers, and since the great improvement in the lode took place we have at least supported our opinion by purchasing of the market upwards of 3000 shares since the beginning of May, and at prices varying from 11s. up to 44s. 6d. per share. These have mostly gone into the hands of bona fide investors, and we are prepared to buy 1000 more; but as the market has been knocked down by sellers who seem to believe the quotations and remarks sent out to them in private circulars for market purposes, we may, by waiting a little longer, buy the shares still cheaper.

THE GOLD AND DIAMOND FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA—No. XI.

BY THOMAS COLLINGWOOD KITTO M.E.

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No sooner had I commenced to make a careful examination of the banks of the Vaal than scores of fellows came around; some said they had gold, but most of them said they had cinnabar, and knew where the big body was to be found that it came from. I had the greatest difficulty in convincing them that it was not what they represented it to be—they seemed to have cinnabar on the brain. Many persons showed me bits of iron pyrites adhering to pieces of coarse slate, which they told me was gold, and some declared in the most solemn manner that they had it analysed and proved to be gold. One man showed me a gold ring, which he said he had made from the stuff by a travelling jeweller only a short time before. I was perfectly dumbfounded by the lying audacity of some of them, until I found they contemplated promoting a company to work a certain portion of one of the banks for gold, diamonds, and cinnabar. It is marvellous how men who know nothing of mining will lie when they are trying to promote a company. I begin to think Annanias must have been a company promoter, only new at the business. There are faint traces of gold to be found in some of the reaches of the Vaal, but I do not think the most diligent worker could procure an ounce per annum. In the matter of diamonds it is different—I doubt if any river in the world is richer in diamonds than the Vaal between Hebron and Delport's Hope (see map of South Africa by Mr. Jas. Wyld, 11 and 12, Charing Cross), and if it were not for the matchless richness of Kimberley, De Beers, Bultfontein, and Dutoitspan Mines the river diggings would receive much greater attention, and produce far larger quantities of diamonds than they have done.

At Delport's Hope the diggers have confined their principal operations to the north bank of the river, which slopes back for about 1000 feet, at an angle of from 3 to 5 deg. In the rainy season the river rises so high that it puts a stop to all digging operations until it goes down again; some of the best diamonds in South Africa have been found here, and some persons have made small fortunes, but it is generally considered the north bank is pretty well worked out. The south bank of the river at Delport's Hope is precipitous, and is in places from 40 to 50 ft. high. This bank is not so easily worked as the north, in consequence of the enormous boulders which it contains, many of which are of such magnitude as to cause a slight diversion in the course of the river. It is my opinion this south bank is very rich in diamonds, and if ever the price should go up to what it was 10 years ago it would all pay well to turn over, and afford employment for a large number of persons. A great deal of land in this neighbourhood is well adapted to the cultivation of corn, and most kinds of vegetables, and is a very suitable place for a small town.

I next examined the Larkin's Flat diggings, which were very shallow, and of great extent. Most of the diggers appear to be doing very well; but there were great complaints about the numerous loafers who infested the camp. One man in particular was very loud in his complaints; "he had been on the diggings six months, and only got three diamonds, the rest being stolen." The next man I visited said, in a very excited manner, "I saw you speaking to that beggar just now"—pointing to the man I had just left—"he has been robbing all of us right and left, and the diggers have given him one hour to clear out," and he cleared. I met a few other ne'er-do-wells at Larkin's Flat, individuals who are always running about from claim to claim on the strength of big diamonds that somebody else has found. As long as there is a diamond field these fellows will be found loafing about the canteens, and will be easily recognised by their greasy appearance, the odour of grog, and always wanting to borrow a pipe of tobacco. These fellows give the river diggings a bad name; but from the information I was able to gather on the spot honest and steady working labourers were able to earn fully 200l. per annum, with a prospect of getting an occasional big diamond.

In moving from Larkin's Flat to Niekerk's Rush there are thousands of acres of diamondiferous gravel in which no work has been done; but I have no doubt if there were any material rise in the price of diamonds it would be worked at a fair profit. The principal workings at Larkin's Flat have hitherto been confined to the shallow ground; but I have reason to believe the deep ground will turn out even more profitable than the shallow, with the assistance of a little inexpensive machinery. Some beautiful diamonds were being found at this place at the time of my visit. I heard again of gold and cinnabar, but saw none, and the only rocks which I saw exposed were basalt and dolerite.

I next visited the diggings known as the Kieskama, which is small compared to the others, or rather the area worked is small, for there was certainly room for 100 times as many as were then at work. I was shown some beautiful diamonds from this place, and everybody appeared to be doing very well.

There is such a sameness about all the river diggings that any one of them fairly represents the whole; there is no special qualification necessary in digging for diamonds on the river—industry and temperance, with a fairly good constitution, are the essentials which invariably command success.

The Waldek's Plant diggings may almost be said to be a continuation of Kieskama, and at the time of my visit was the most important diggings on the river; a great deal of work had been done, yet it was in its infancy. In many cases splendid diamonds had been picked up quite on the surface, and for some unaccountable reason the claims had been abandoned without any attempt to reach the bed-rock, which ought, according to every natural law to be the richest. With anything like a fair price for diamonds Waldek's Plant is capable of affording profitable employment for a large number of persons for a great many years. I met two or three Australian diggers there, and they always took means to save any gold which they met with in their search for diamonds. I found they had saved nearly 1000l. per annum from the sale of their diamonds; but the concentrated gold washings for three years was about ½ oz., and I doubt whether there is any portion of the Vaal which is any richer for gold.

Gong Gong and Cawood's Hope, though under different names, is really one run of diggings. At the time of my visit there had been less work done there than on the others; the diggers were doing very well indeed, and one man showed me a beautiful 10-carat diamond which he found that morning in a small pocket in the rock which could not possibly hold more than a few pounds weight of stuff. I formed a very favourable opinion of Gong Gong as a river diggings, and stated so in my report. This was doubted at the time, but subsequently my opinion proved to be the correct one. Here I met an old Californian gold-digger, who, judging by the amount of energy he displayed, was deserving success. He said—"My name is Old Hart, and you can make a note of it." I asked him how long he had been on the diggings, and if he had ever found gold? He had been on the diamond fields from the first, had found traces of gold, and was fairly successful in the way of diamonds. He believed that those who wanted to make money in diamonds ought to do so in the next 18 months, inasmuch as after that time they would be of very little value. He thought the illicit diamond buying thieves could rush tons of diamonds on the market whenever they choose, and he thought they were about to do so. As to working the Kimberley Mine profitably much below 300 ft., he perfectly ridiculed the idea. Old Hart was certainly a character, and I learned a great deal from him which I cannot communicate, as it would tend to incriminate several who were supposed to be honest members of society, and held responsible positions.

After leaving Gong Gong, I went to the diggings known as Bad Hope, which had been entirely abandoned, and appear never to have been of much value. I then returned to Barkley, where I spent the first evening listening to the yarns of a few old diggers who had been there from the outset. "We stood no nonsense in those days," said Mr. Mac—"There was that lying missionary chap, named —, who was sent out to this country as a Kaffir teacher; the unprincipled beggar tried to play into the hands of the Boers against his own countrymen, but we jolly soon dragged him across the river." "Oh, dear me!" exclaimed the old fellow bursting into a fit of laughter, "What a pitiable object he did look!"

THE QUEBRADA RAILWAY, LAND, AND COPPER COMPANY (LIMITED).

The directors' report for the year ended 31st December, 1884, is as follows:—The balance-sheet and accounts for the year 1884 show a heavy loss arising wholly in the mining department and from the continued and unprecedented depreciation in the price of copper, inflicting on the company not only direct and immediate loss, but also various indirect and to some extent temporary losses which were its inevitable result. This more fully appears under the heads of mining department and revenue accounts.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.—By reference to the accounts it will be seen that the receipts from local traffic amounted to 22,577l. 13s., being as foreshadowed in the interim report nearly 3000l. in excess of 1883. No considerable increase on last year's receipts can be expected until the railway has been extended towards Duca and Barquisimeto; but if the line were continued to these places it would command a large traffic to and from the interior. To extend the railway to Barquisimeto would about double its present length; but if this were done there are good grounds for believing that the line would not only earn a satisfactory return upon the capital employed, but probably lead to the railway becoming eventually one of the trunk lines of the country. From the present inland terminus there extends a direct line of towns at distances from 30 to 40 miles apart right away into the heart of the country, which towns are alike centres for the collection of produce, and have grown up along the existing roads from the interior to the coast. Starting from La Luz the principal towns succeed each other in the following order:—Duca, about 23 miles from La Luz; Barquisimeto, about 55 miles from La Luz; Quibor, about 80 miles from La Luz; Tucuyo, about 100 miles from La Luz. If the extension of the railway were undertaken it would intersect one of the most populous and productive parts of the country. According to the Statistical Annuary of Venezuela, published by order of the President in 1884, the City of Barquisimeto contains a population of 28,198 inhabitants and 4401 dwellings. There are a national college for superior instruction, and several private ones, as well as 19 federal schools for primary instruction, and, as indicating the importance of the place, we learn from the same authority that five newspapers are published there.

The following is extracted from the superintendent's annual report:—

PERMANENT WAY.—Considerable attention has been paid to the effective maintenance of earthworks and bridges on main line. During the year all the 27 lb. clip jointed rails were removed from the railway and replaced by new 50 lb. steel rails; this being done without any additional expenditure other than that incurred to make the necessary alterations to iron sleepers. The extension to old Spanish furnaces near Titara is made with steel rails on wood sleepers. A large amount of work has been accomplished in widening embankments and formation generally, and placing ballast on the worse parts along the line. Good material for the latter purpose is, however, except in one or two places, scarce, more particularly between Yumare and Tucacas.

The Board would be glad if it could see its way to continue the laying of new rails of 50 lb. section in place of the 30 lb. rails still in the road, but is unable to do so at present for the reasons stated in the last report. Out of a total length of 55 miles more than 20 miles are now laid with 50 lb. rails, and this improvement should be continued as early as practicable.

MINING DEPARTMENT.—The details of the underground works carried out during the year under review were fully explained in the interim report issued by the board in February last. A set of plans on a small scale was issued with that report showing the nature and extent of the mining and surface arrangements which the board hopes will have assisted the shareholders in following up all essential features concerning their property. The board had then to report a fall in the price of copper ore, furnace material, from the starting of the company's revenue account (Jan. 1, 1883) of about 4s. per unit—20l. per ton of fine copper, from 13s. per unit to 9s. per unit. On the output of 1884 this falling off in value would represent a diminution of about 80,000l. in the company's receipts; but the average price obtained up to that time for the portion of the year's produce then sold (about one-half) was 9s. 9d. per unit. The board was then anxiously looking forward to a recovery in price as the only certain means of materially improving the company's position; but instead of a recovery further serious disappointment has been experienced, and it is with deep regret that the board has to report having been compelled to accept as low as 7s. 6d. per unit for some of the year's produce sold since that time. Most sales, comprising the second half of the produce of 1884, have been made at 8s. per unit—say, 1s. 9d. per unit under the average price realised for the first half of the year, thus showing a further fall in furnace material equal to 8l. 15s. per ton of metallic copper. This additional depression has removed from the board's mind any hesitation as to the proper policy to be pursued in the interest of the shareholders, and it has been decided to confine the mining works of the immediate future of the Aroa Mine alone, which left a relatively fair margin towards railway carriage, debenture and other interest, and London expenses in the past year. After paying freight and all charges as per agents' account sales, the various elements of revenue from mineral compare with cost of production (exclusive of railway carriage, interest, and London charges) as follows:—

Source of revenue.	Tons.	Cost of production exclusive of railway carriage interest, & London charges.	Actual proceeds.	Surplus to meet company's outlay for railway carriage, interest, & management.
Aroa Mine*	28,008	£40,700	£65,654	£24,954
Titara	3,754	12,900	13,048	248
Regulus and kernels†	5,755	32,140	32,385	245

* Including Holman's level and exploratory work.

† From smelting works.

The above will show that the Aroa Mine was the only section of the company's mineral operations that offered any prospect of being continued without serious loss in the present condition of the copper market, and, therefore, the board ordered the superintendent to shut down the works at Titara Mine for the present. This mine received considerable attention from workers in former times, and the ore extracted was of high quality, as the pillars from time to time encountered in present workings go to show. The following are extracts from the superintendent's annual report concerning this mine:—

The workings at Tigre level and above have been placed in com-

munication with Bruce's level by means of a winze about 23 fms. in depth; this will form, when required, a way of cheaply conveying the ore from this mine and placing it on a projected dressing-floor some little distance from the mouth of Bruce's level, and from whence it would be taken by tramway to the head of incline. During the year a siding from main line of railway to the old Spanish furnaces was completed, and is available for traffic. The earthwork necessary to form an incline, over 300 yards long, was also executed, and the rails laid on the ground. All this work will be eventually of considerable value, as with an increase in the price of copper Titara can furnish immense quantities of poor ores for treatment, either in combination with calcined yellow ore in blast-furnaces or by any of the wet methods of copper extraction that may be introduced.

ROYALTIES.—The compromise effected with the owners of the royalties is being carried out. An amount has been paid in settlement of all claims up to the end of 1882, and from that time the basis of obligation will be governed by a modified agreement, the leading features of which have been agreed upon between the parties.

SMEETING AND REDUCTION WORKS.—The roasting of ore in kilns has been commenced on a small scale, but the board is doubtful whether the result can effect any material alteration in the financial outcome of the smelting department under present market conditions. The regulus produced in 1885 has been much higher in its copper contents than during former years, and considerable reductions have been effected in the expenditure of this department. The superintendent is of opinion that it can be made to pay even at the present low price of copper, but unless he can demonstrate this financially in the working up of the stocks of furnace material and fuel now on the spot the board will probably consider it prudent in the company's interests to suspend smelting for a time, and allow the stocks of low-grade ore to accumulate, awaiting either a more favourable market for realisation or some improved method of concentration or reduction less costly than that of smelting. The quantity of copper in regulus and kernels sold from this department during the years 1883 and 1884 was about 97,000 units per annum. The reduction in price from the 1st January, 1883, is, therefore, equal to a falling off in the revenue of this department of over 20,000l., which would have constituted a profit worth every effort to obtain, and which under former market conditions this department might have produced, but to continue the smelting-works under present circumstances is at the best to employ a considerable amount of capital with the bare prospect of seeing it back again, at the same time involving risks of loss for which there are no corresponding inducements; and, therefore, unless a profit can be shown in working up the present stock of material the board will postpone further shipments of coke until prospects are sufficiently promising to justify their resuming them.

REVENUE ACCOUNTS, &c.—The receipts from all sources during 1884 amounted to 197,384l. 18s. 2d. as compared with 217,302l. 8s. 6d. in the previous year. The receipts from the sale of mineral produced about 22,800l. less, whilst the railway receipts were nearly 3000l. more than in 1883. The falling off in receipts from mineral is the more conspicuously disappointing when it is remembered that the copper sold for 1884 was nearly 40,000 units in excess of 1883. In short, had the same prices been realised during 1884 as during 1883 there would have been an increase in the gross mineral receipts of about 40,000l. The expenditure for 1884 was 197,161l. 3s. 5d., as against 194,206l. 3s. 4d. in 1883, but for this additional outlay of 2955l. 0s. 1d. an extra supply of mineral was obtained over the previous year of the value of about 18,000l. It is, therefore, obvious that the unfortunate outcome of the revenue accounts of the year is to be ascribed almost entirely to the continued fall in the price of copper, which is too notorious to call for comment in this report. The debits to the capital account represent necessary works and materials supplied during the year, which explain themselves. The net revenue account shows the amount of the deficiency at the end of the year to be 34,916l. 13s. 1d., which would be speedily made up if the price of copper showed any appreciable recovery or if the company could work out some cheap and effective method of extracting the copper from the immense quantities of low grade ore available at the mines. The contract made for the prospective sale of the larger proportion of the company's sulphide ores is working favourably, and will tend to help the company materially over the present depression, as providing an immediate realisation for the ore to be delivered under that contract as it arrives in this country. The difficulty of effecting sales in the past has had a most prejudicial effect on the company's revenue accounts, which the new contract should almost entirely obviate in future.

GENERAL.—The company has recently sustained the loss of two tried and trusted servants, Mr. Griffin, the general underground foreman (who had been for many years in the service of the company, and was intimately acquainted with every part of the workings), having died of an internal complaint, not ascribed to climatic causes, and Pengelley, the night foreman, having been killed by an accident whilst discharging his duties underground. The directors retiring on the present occasion are Mr. T. W. Meates and Mr. N. Learoyd, who being eligible offer themselves for re-election. Messrs. Quilter, Ball, and Co., the auditors of company, retire, and offer themselves for re-election.

EXAMINATION FOR MINE MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

The question is frequently put as to the examinations which candidates for certificates as mine managers have to undergo, but without satisfactory answer. We are now, however, in a position to give the desired information, fixed by the board for examination of the mining districts of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. The qualifications which must be possessed by candidates for examination for certificates of competency as to knowledge and experience must be—(1) Having had practical experience of not less than five years in a mine as underviewer or deputy, or in any similar position of responsibility; (2) or having had practical experience of not less than three years in a mine as underviewer or deputy, or in any other similar position of responsibility, and having attended regularly for two additional years at the Yorkshire College, the London School of Mines, the Newcastle College of Physical Science, Owen's College, the Glasgow School of Mines, or some other college or mining school satisfactory to the board. As regards the attendance at a college or mining school, a certificate must be produced by the candidate from the principal of the college or school of attendance upon and satisfactory work done in at least two distinct subjects connected with mining for two whole years; (3) or, having had practical experience of not less than three years in a mine as underviewer, or deputy or in any similar position of responsibility as having served satisfactorily apprenticeship of two years (additional) as a mining engineer. As regards service of apprenticeship as a mining engineer, a satisfactory certificate from the master must be produced to the board by the candidate, and must state that the apprentice has had practical work in mines during his apprenticeship.

The subjects fixed for the examination are the following:—

Arithmetic.—The first four rules, vulgar fractions and decimal fractions, and extraction of square and cube roots.

Ventilation.—Common air and gases, and different methods of ventilation.

The use of instruments for surveying and dialling, and levelling (dialling by both fast and loose needle) and the testing of instruments for surveying, together with plotting surveys and making plans and sections.

The winning and working of coal mines.

Practical mechanics.

The Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1872, and the special rules in force in the district.

THE CLIFTON HALL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

In connection with fatal mining catastrophes no more painful reading has been presented to the public than the report of the proceedings before the Coroner as to the cause of the Clifton Hall Colliery Explosion, and few who have read it will be disinclined to endorse the resolution come to by the Miners' Conference that "the verdict respecting the deaths of the 177 persons is not in accordance with the evidence placed before the jury." The colliery, we are told, was worked in the most effective manner, and was well ventilated, yet it is admitted that the sad occurrence was preventable; and this was abundantly shown in the evidence. In fact, every day there were combined all the elements and more for bringing about a terrible explosion. There were naked candles, as well as some, so-called, safety-lamps, including the Davy, which is very little better than an open light; the men in some places were allowed to smoke, fire-damp had constantly been found in the workings, blasting was carried on during the day, and, in addition to all these, there was a deputy, or foreman, whose duty it was to examine the miners' cells before work was commenced, and put down the result of his examination in a book kept for the purpose, who could neither read nor write. Under such circumstances it is not at all surprising that what was almost invited happened, and that an explosion causing the loss of 177 lives took place. The dangerous state of the mine was no secret, for in November last the chief Inspector, Mr. DICKINSON, received an anonymous letter calling attention to the condition in which it was owing to the presence of fire-damp, and his assistant, who examined the mine on the following day, found gas in such quantities in one of the levels that he caused the manager to take the men from that part until it was removed by increased ventilation. After that several of the miners predicted the catastrophe in their home circles, which they said was sure to take place, and likely to be terrible in its consequences. Still work went on as usual, naked lights, blasting, and lax examinations, for BUCKLEY, the fire-trier, who could neither read nor write, admitted that he did not consider he was called upon to examine all the workings, but only those where men were actually employed. BENJAMIN CROOK, the night foreman, also admitted that shortly before the explosion he found gas in the goaf near to where he considered the explosion took place. Again, on the morning of the explosion a miner, named PRICE, who had not much faith in the examination made by the official fire-triers, found gas by means of his lamp before he left work, and near to the locality of the explosion, as he had frequently done before. He, however, did not make any statement as to what he had seen, as he did not see any official to report to. Other miners also found gas in their working places, and the chief Government Inspector, Mr. DICKINSON, was informed anonymously of the state of things that existed, as well as from the report received from his assistant, for so recently as the 6th of June he called the attention of the owners in writing as to the irregularities with respect to the condition of the roof, man-holes, report books, and other matters, and in reply was told that the underlookers and firemen had been duly warned that they would be either prosecuted or dismissed if such irregularities again took place. Both the owners and the men, it appears, were opposed to the use of safety-lamps, and PRICE, who found gas in his working place, worked with a candle. In such a mine surely it approaches the extreme reckless to have open lights for working by, and this evidently is the opinion of Mr. DICKINSON, the senior Inspector of Mines, for in the evidence he gave before the Coroner he read the correspondence which took place between himself and the owners, the Messrs. KNOWLES, upon the subject of naked lights *versus* safety-lamps. He also said his opinion was that all collieries should be worked with safety-lamps, but at the Clifton Colliery he had during the last quarter of a century done all he could to secure the use of safety-lamps, but in this he was opposed by both owners and workmen, and he wanted the jury to say whether they would take the responsibility of recommending those lamps. Mr. HALL, the certificated manager, in his evidence, said that before the explosion he thought it was safe to use naked lights, but he now considered it safer to employ lamps. The actual cause of the explosion, however, has been plainly made out, for Mr. JOHN HIGSON, the well-known mining engineer, in his report, in accordance with the request of the jury, said he believed that if naked lights had not been in use at the colliery the outburst of gas would have been carried away by the usual air current without doing damage in any way. One would have thought that even without disputing the question of open lights and safety-lamps with the experienced chief mining Inspector, that the owners would for the safety of their own property and the lives of those they employed, have used all known precautions for attaining those objects. But with all the facts of the explosion before them, even now they have not resolved to do away with the naked lights, for one of the managing directors, Mr. J. KNOWLES, stated before the Coroner that the workmen had preferred that naked lights should be used, and instruction had been given that the ventilation should be kept so thorough that such lights could be safely used. Probably the explosion, he said, had altered the opinion of the miners, and the firm would consider the advisability of ordering the use of lamps. We certainly consider that it is not a matter of "advisability" or otherwise, where the lives of so many men are at stake, as will be the case when the Clifton Hall Colliery is again in full operation. This, too, we believe, will be the opinion of the Home Secretary, as it will be of all mining engineers and colliery managers, although it may be opposed to the views of the Messrs. KNOWLES and some of their workmen. To have naked lights in use in a mine which has been notorious for the gas that is given off from the strata, and where blasting with powder is carried on is simply inviting a death-dealing catastrophe from explosion, and this is not likely to be tolerated even in the case of the Clifton Hall Colliery. The verdict of the jury has been severely commented upon, and not without some show of justice. It was in effect one of "Accidental Death" in all cases, "caused by an explosion of a large quantity of inflammable gas on the 18th of June emitted from the goaf in the Trancherbone Mine on the east side of the No. 2 level, and that the gas ignited at a lighted candle placed against a chock in the working place of JOHN DYKE." Surely there can be no stronger condemnation of the use of naked lights than this portion of the verdict, fully bearing out the statement that had safety-lamps been used the explosion would not have taken place. Yet after having said so much, the jury add that, "seeing the diversity of opinion as to the use of naked lights in mines where inflammable gas is known to exist, between Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Mines on the one hand, and the manager of the Clifton Hall Colliery on the other, decline to express any opinion as to the propriety of the discontinuance of such use, but recommend that the use of naked lights should, without loss of time, form the subject of enquiry by skillful and experienced persons to be appointed for that purpose by the Government." A conclusion more illogical cannot well be conceived. The jury said that the explosion was caused by a lighted candle, and they had the testimony of the mining engineers, including the one appointed by themselves, that had lamps been in use the explosion would not have taken place, yet they were unable to express an opinion as to whether candles or safety-lamps were the best in a fiery mine! As we have before stated, there is no doubt the Home Secretary will see the matter in a

very different light without causing an enquiry into what all mining engineers and scientists are agreed upon.

SILVER MINING IN PACHUCA, MEXICO.

This rich mining district is now attracting some attention amongst mining investors, and three sets known as the West Rosario, New Porvenir, and San Ricardo, each about 1950 ft. in length by 450 ft. in width, embracing 13 lodes, have, we believe, been sold to an English company. In Pachuca and the mining district around it are some 267 mines, the yields from some of which border on the fabulous. Several of the leading mines are working at depths varying from 750 to 1800 ft. in depth, and the ore averages from \$40 to \$95 per ton. As an instance of the great value of some of the mines in this district, it may be mentioned that the returns given from 11 of the principal mines show a total amount paid in dividends of \$60,116,250, or over 12,000,000 sterling. The San Buena Mine, depth 1800 ft., has paid a total of \$30,000,000 in dividends, the amount paid last year being \$330,000. The Rosario Mine, depth 1155 ft., has paid a total of \$12,525,000 in dividends, and last year paid \$84,700; the Encino has paid about \$10,000,000; the Guatamoozin Mine \$5,000,250, while others with smaller but respectable amounts. The Porvenir Mine, which is directly east of and on the line of some of the lodes running through the three sets lately sold, are working at a depth of 1110 ft., and not being on the dividend list have lately struck on a new lode of great promise, said to be one of the richest ever struck in the district, and broken out as it stands will yield 152 ozs. of silver to the ton. The depth at which this new discovery has been made is about 600 ft. in depth, and from its trend must pass through the sets of the West Rosario Silver Mining Company. In recent times one-half of the silver produced in the whole world has been supplied from Mexico, and the entire product of this country is reported at 700,000,000. Pachuca being one of the richest districts in Mexico offers special features for the investment of capital in the development of the many rich lodes known to exist in and around that city.

FOREIGN MINING AND METALLURGY.

Prices have continued deplorably low in the French Iron Trade. Merchants' iron has scarcely made 5*l.* 8*s.* per ton. The forges have really scarcely any fixed prices, and endeavour to relieve themselves at any cost of stocks which threaten to become burdensome to them. The proposed syndicate of forgemasters in the northern and eastern departments is regarded as a failure; it has not been able to arrive at any serious resolution. A contradiction is given to a statement that the Denain Company is about to suspend working operations. In the German iron trade prices have experienced little change. Spiegel pig, with 10 per cent. of manganese, has made 2*l.* 6*s.* per ton, while refining pig has made about 2*l.* 1*s.* per ton. Bessemer pig has been selling currently at 2*l.* 8*s.* per ton. At an adjudication which took place recently, at Strasburg, Messrs. Henschel, of Cassel, obtained a contract for six three-axled coupled locomotives at 152*l.* per engine. The iron and steel works of the Rhenish provinces are stated to be provided with orders for railway matériel, if not upon an abundant scale, at any rate at remunerative prices. A rather important exportation of steel wire to the United States is one of the trade features of the moment. A new rolling-mill is stated to be in course of construction for the Rhine Steel-works Company at Ruhrort. An Austrian company has obtained an order for 1800 tons of steel-plates for the Hungarian Lloyds. There is a little news to communicate with respect to the Belgian Iron Trade. Business has presented a weak tone, and it is difficult to conclude transactions without making some reductions. The prices of raw materials have fallen, but what the rolling mills have gained on one hand they have lost on the other, and, upon the whole, the rates current for the principal products are lower now than they have been for some time past. Coal has fallen slightly in price, and this has, of course, facilitated cheap working, but labour has arrived at the extreme limit of any possible reduction. Casting pigs has shown extreme weakness upon the Belgian markets. English pig has been quoted at 1*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* to 1*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton. At Charleroi the special casting pig of the district has not experienced many fluctuations, and has remained at 2*l.* 12*s.* to 2*l.* 14*s.* per ton. Refining pig, hard iron, has declined in the Charleroi district to 1*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton; ordinary pig has made 1*l.* 15*s.* per ton, and mixed ditto, 1*l.* 12*s.* per ton. No. 1 iron has been rather feebly maintained. The current quotation upon export account has been 4*l.* per ton; upon home account No. 1 has made 4*l.* 2*s.* to 4*l.* 4*s.* per ton. Upon the same conditions No. 2 may be quoted at 4*l.* 8*s.* per ton; and No. 3 at 4*l.* 14*s.* per ton. Girders have ranged between 4*l.* 2*s.* and 4*l.* 8*s.* per ton. Plates have ranged from 4*l.* 6*s.* to 4*l.* 8*s.* per ton for export, while on home account they have not gone below 5*l.* 10*s.* per ton. No. 3 have made about 7*l.* 18*s.* per ton, and No. 4, 11*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

Quotations for the various descriptions of combustibles have not varied upon most of the Belgian markets, and prices have been sustained at a level which still leaves some little profit for colliery proprietors. In the Couchant de Mons, however, recent transactions have been conducted at a slight reduction. The number of trucks carrying coal and coke, which passed over the Belgian State Railways in the week ending July 4, was 14,741, as compared with 15,696 in the corresponding seven days of 1884. It appears from official returns that the production of coal in the Hainaut last year was 13,510,096 tons, as compared with 13,497,113 tons in 1883. The value of last year's production was, however, 355,085*l.* less than that of 1883. The number of workpeople declined to 78,789 in 1884, as compared with 79,129 in 1883. In the province of Namur the number of workpeople employed declined last year to 2752, as compared with 2814 in 1883. The production receded last year to 477,439 tons, as compared with 485,450 tons in 1883. The value of the production of 1884 was 4470*l.* less than that of 1883. In the province of Liège the number of workpeople employed declined last year to 23,641, as compared with 24,309 in 1883. The production of last year was 4,063,064 tons, as compared with 4,195,191 tons in 1883. The value of last year's production was 150,264*l.* less than that of 1883. There has been little change in the general tone of the German coal trade, prices having been pretty well maintained. Production has continued upon a large scale, but prices have been supported, although the markets have not shown much activity.

"India-rubber clads" are to be tried in place of ironclads in the navy of the future. The first series of experiments will be undergone by the Resistance, which is to be coated with india-rubber to a considerable thickness, and shot and shell will be fired at her.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, MELBOURNE TIN COMPANY, LARUT.—Has resumed washing operations, and have had the ground excavated around the well, so as to prevent its silting up. A contract has been entered into for raising washdirt at \$10 per chag per 50 cubic yards: the bottom is a soft slate, and where uncovered the water is very heavy, the wash dirt is deeper than any of the surrounding claims, and it is estimated that 20 tons of stream tin will be washed from the paddock and stripped. The manager estimates, with present appliances, to get from 5 to 6 tons of tin per week, and to make a profit of about 200*l.* per week. With the adjoining worked-out ground to start from, he says there would be no difficulty in getting 20 tons of tin per week.

COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS.

The following letter appeared in the *Times* of Tuesday:—

SIR,—In the letter from me which you inserted in the *Times* of the 26th ult., I endeavoured to show how disastrous and how opposed to every principle of humanity and economy is the fatal practice of shot-firing in coal mines. At the same time I intimated that, with your permission, I should have something to say with regard to so-called "safety" lamps. That this question of lamps is one of great difficulty cannot be denied, and I should not be surprised to learn that the delay which has occurred in issuing the final report of the Royal Commission on Accidents in Mines is largely due to the anxiety of the Commissioners to effect an adequate and satisfactory settlement of the matter. Wherein the difficulty consists I will endeavour to point out in this letter. I have before me a pamphlet by Sir Humphry Davy, presented by the author to Mr. John Buddle, the eminent North-country mining engineer, and containing Sir Humphry's autograph notes in the margin, entitled "An Account of an Invention for Lighting the Mines and Consuming the Fire-damp without Danger to the Miner." This pamphlet was published in 1816, and gives a full description of the "Davy" lamp, the use of which, to quote the inventor's words, "will enable the miner to work with perfect security in parts of the mines most liable to fire-damp, and will not only preserve him from, but will enable him to combat and subdue his most dangerous enemy." The "Davy" lamp was tried and approved by Mr. Buddle and the principal mining engineers of the Newcastle district. But there were rivals in the field, and the lamps invented respectively by Dr. W. Reid Clanny, of Sunderland, and George Stephenson, then a workman employed at the Killingworth Colliery, Newcastle, were the chief of these. The claims of the various lamps were settled, after careful examination, at a meeting of the coalowners on the 11th of October, 1816, when it was decided "that the merit of discovering a real safety-lamp belonged to Davy. This decision was followed by the presentation to Sir Humphry by the coalowners of Newcastle of a service of plate "as a testimony of their gratitude for the services he had rendered to them and to humanity." There is something grimly ironical in this surrender of "coalowners" and "humanity;" but at the same time the action of the coalowners in 1816 is in marked contrast to the attitude adopted by many colliery proprietors at the present day with regard to safety-lamps and other devices for the saving of human life. For 70 years the three lamps which I have mentioned have been in use. That they have afforded some protection—and for a lengthened period of their history a very great measure of protection—to the miners it is impossible to doubt; but new diseases cannot be cured by old remedies, and the lamp which in Davy's time formed a moderately efficient safeguard is of little or no use in the changed conditions under which coal is now won—the greater depth and area of the mines, and the increased ventilation and its effect on the coal and in the mines. Indeed, a "safety" lamp that is unsafe under conditions which are nowadays of constant recurrence is a delusion and a snare. The recognition of this fact has led to the invention of many new types of lamps, some of them good, some of them very bad; but, good or bad, there is no law to prohibit the use of any of them. Government Inspectors, who know the "Davy" and other lamps to be defective, have no power to forbid their introduction into the mines, and there are in consequence more than a hundred kinds of lamps in use. Many of these, especially where the masters compel the men to provide their own lamps, are purchased simply because they are low-priced, without regard to their value for the purpose for which they are intended. But even if the men were prepared to give a good price for their lamps, how could they be expected to select the best lamp, when so high an authority on mining matters as Mr. A. L. Stevenson, of Durham, manager of Sir Isaac Lothian Bell's collieries, was fain to declare, at a recent meeting of the North of England Institute of Mining Engineers, that "he was very much bewildered at the present time as to which was the best lamp, as there were so many lamps by various makers, and it was difficult to say where the best was to be found?" During the last few years much has been said on this subject, and many efforts have been made to obtain a better system of lighting. After the explosion at the Abram Colliery in 1881, by which 40 miners lost their lives, I offered through the Central Association for dealing with the distress caused by mining accidents a premium of 500*l.* for the lighting of a colliery by means of electricity, but that association would do nothing, preferring to reverse the adage, and to continue what must be at best but a very inadequate "cure," rather than to make any effort in the direction of "prevention." At the time of the Seaham explosion, and on many subsequent occasions, I have called attention to the necessity of safer and better lights in mines. On the 14th of November, 1883, Mr. John Brown, Professor of Mining at the Mason Science College, in a letter to the *Times*, referred to the defective character of the "Davy" and other lamps, and spoke emphatically on the urgent necessity for improvement. In giving evidence at the inquest as to the cause of the death of 67 miners killed by the Accrington Colliery explosion in November, 1883, Mr. John Higson said, "he looked for increased safety in a better lamp. He considered that the 'Davy' lamp contained great elements of danger. A miner when at work had not his eye constantly upon his lamp; in fact, if a man had his daily bread to earn, he did not bother so much about it, and it was possible for a 'Davy' lamp to be full of an explosive atmosphere for some considerable time and the miner not to notice it." At this colliery "Davy" lamps were used and shot firing practised. I fearlessly repeat to-day the words which, upon hearing the usual stereotyped verdict of the Accrington jury to the effect that "the explosion was caused by a sudden outburst of gas, but there is not sufficient evidence to show how the same exploded," I telegraphed to the Manchester papers on the 23rd of November, 1883—viz.:—"Another unsatisfactory verdict. No condemnation of 'Davy' and other bad lamps. No denunciation of blasting by gunpowder or furnace ventilation. No recommendation by the jury. The 'Davy' safety lamp, so-called, I know to be nothing less than a death-dealing man-trap." In the same year I offered through the council of the National Miners' Union, which represents some 40,000 colliers, a premium of 500*l.* for a perfect, portable electric, or other miners' lamp which should afford a good light, and be safe. The following adjudicators were appointed—Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P., nominated by the Miners' Union; Professor Sir Frederick Abel, F.R.S., nominated by the Society of Arts (both these gentlemen are members of the Royal Commission on Accidents in Mines); Professor W. Grylls Adams, F.R.S., nominated by the Royal Society; and Prof. Sylvanus P. Thompson, of the Bristol University, nominated by myself. The Coalowners' Association of Great Britain were invited by the council of the Miners' Union to nominate a fifth adjudicator, but, through their secretary, Mr. Maskell Peace, they declined. Nearly a hundred lamps were sent in, and tested at the Royal Laboratory, Woolwich, with the result that no competing lamp was found to fulfil the conditions which had been prepared by the National Miners' Union, and the award was consequently withheld. Many improved lamps have, however, been introduced, some of which were first sent to compete for the premium, e.g., the "Marsaut" and the "Morgan" lamps, and much good has thus been effected. There are also the "Mueseler," the "Tin Can Davy," the "Protector," the "Routledge," and the "Linethurst" lamps, which claim a great degree of safety, and afford a better light than the old lamps. But, in the words of M. Marsaut, the inventor of one of the lamps just named, and an authority on the question, "we have yet to find a perfect safety-lamp." Until we can have our mines lighted by electricity—and I am glad to say there are unmistakable evidences that this is coming quickly—I would suggest that candles and naked lights, together with antiquated and worthless lamps should be absolutely prohibited in all coal mines; that no safety-lamp (whether found by master or man) should be allowed to be used that did not bear the stamp of the Government Inspector, or some other competent and properly authorised official (weights and measures and gas meters have to be officially stamped, why not safety-lamps!); and that smoking and shot-firing should be altogether forbidden.

Bowdon, Cheshire.

ELLIS LEVER.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY JOHNSON, SEN.

Many of our readers will learn with regret of the death of Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., of Trindle-road, Dudley, whose name in connection with all affecting the mining industry of the country is "familiar as a household word." For many months past Mr. Johnson had been lying on a bed of sickness, affected by sciatica which finally resulted in his death, in the 63rd year of his age, on Tuesday afternoon last week, leaving three sons and two daughters to mourn his loss. Mr. Johnson was essentially a local man, and with everything connected with the immediate neighbourhood of his birth and residence ever took a warm though unobtrusive interest. He was the sixth son of the late Mr. John Johnson, of Sedgely (who some years ago held an honourable position under the Earl of Dudley), and was born in 1823. He was articled to Mr. John Orme Brettell, surveyor, of Dudley, and even during his apprenticeship developed those qualities of heart and head which at a latter period of his life were to gain for him hosts of warm-hearted friends, and stamp him as one of the foremost men, in his particular sphere, of his day. In 1844 he commenced business for himself, and as a land and mineral surveyor rapidly came to the front. During the railway mania his skill as a surveyor and draftsman soon secured him extensive and lucrative engagements in railway work, one of his earliest works being the survey of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton section of the Great Western Railway. Early in life he commenced the study of geology and mineralogy, and all through his career he took such a pleasure and interest in it as to lead him to the commencement of a collection of fossils and minerals, which after the accumulations of years, is probably the most unique collection of any one individual. The bent of his mind turned naturally towards mining, and very few men possessed a more accurate and extensive knowledge of mining, and a geological acquaintance with the coal fields of the country than he did. The outcome of this knowledge has been productive of great benefit, some of the results of his labours (notably the Sandwell Colliery) being such as will benefit generations to come. This may be considered the great work of his life, he being the pioneer of the Sandwell Park Colliery. This undertaking, as is now well known, led to an extension of the coal field little dreamt of a few years ago, and finds employment for thousands of hands. This the important achievement of his career, may be said to have put new life into the almost exhausted coal field, and will give Birmingham and the Old Black Country fuel long after all now living are no more. The whole district, and especially Westbromwich and Birmingham, owe him a deep debt of gratitude. The inception and carrying out of such a work can only be considered the work of a lifetime, and the time will come when the fruits of his labours will be not only reaped by those directly interested in it, but by the whole district and Birmingham in particular. Mr. Johnson may also be considered the father of the North Warwickshire coal fields. Many years ago he turned his attention to the development of that portion of the country, and spent several years, and large sums of money, in opening up large tracts of mineral property there. Among the collieries won and established by him, may be mentioned the Watling Street Colliery, near Wilnecote, and the Peel Colliery, near Tamworth, in which the late Capt. Bennett was his partner. The latter concern has since become one of the most extensive in the kingdom for the manufacture of clay goods of almost every description. He was intimately connected with everything which he believed calculated to assist the industry he took so warm an interest in, and among many important works associated with his name may be mentioned the South Staffordshire Mines' Drainage Scheme, which emanated from him, it being mainly through his exertions that the Act was obtained. He was always a warm supporter of this scheme, maintaining that if it were carried out according to its inception, it could not but result in incalculable benefit to the neighbourhood. In order to further the interests of mining pursuits, he spent much time in disseminating the knowledge he possessed, and to this untiring desire, the South Staffordshire and East Worcester Mining Institute owes its birth. It was at his suggestion that it was formed, and to his indefatigable exertions in the founding of it, and his subsequent close attention to its interests must be attributed its present important position, and the great good it has been to the district. Mr. Johnson was its first secretary, and subsequently he was elected to the presidential chair on two occasions. As some recognition for these services the members of the institute presented to him some years ago a splendid gold watch, chain, and locket, and among his friends none expressed more genuine regret than the members of this institution at the first annual meeting (we believe) from which he had ever been absent. He contributed many papers of great value, all bearing upon mining pursuits, principally of the immediate district, among which may be mentioned his paper "On the Working of Thick Coal," read at the Midland Institute, Birmingham, many years ago, and his paper read before the Iron and Steel Institute at Dudley. His papers and published remarks all treated on the development of the coal field, and on the improvement in the working of the mines, and were all of a practical nature. Mr. Johnson's services were signally recognised in 1864 by a present from his brother mining engineers of a splendid surveyor's level and a purse of money, mainly contributed by them as a recognition of his able defence of the profession against the remarks of a celebrated metallurgist. Besides being associated with the above-mentioned societies, Mr. Johnson was one of the founders of the Dudley Mechanics' Institute, and he rendered valuable services in connection with the Dudley Exhibition of 1866, for which he was awarded a medal and certificate in recognition of the worth of his aid. He was also associated with many of the mining and scientific societies of the kingdom, and was unanimously elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of London, in recognition of his attainments. As a mining witness he was acknowledged to have very few equals, and was often complimented by judge, counsel, and jury on the straightforward and intelligent manner in which he always gave his evidence; and until late years he was seldom without retainers for Stafford, Warwick, Worcester, and Shrewsbury assizes. He had the honour of being chosen by the mining profession to give evidence for the South Staffordshire district before the Mines' Accidents Commission. As an arbitrator he was called upon to decide many very large and intricate mining questions, including wages disputes. His services were not only sought in this coal field but all over the kingdom, and his decisions were always acceptable to those interested. Mr. Johnson has been engaged on many of the largest and most important mining arbitrations in the kingdom. He was always ready to give the benefit of his knowledge and experience and a helping hand to his professional brethren, especially to the younger members, and among the many acts of assistance thus rendered may be mentioned the Black Lake accident, Westbromwich, where, after a courageous attempt of four days and nights to rescue eight poor souls, and a closing up of the mine for more than a month, the bodies were recovered and sketched by him as they lay before removal to bank.

For many years he was a correspondent of the late Sir Roderick Murchison, J. Beete Jukes, and others engaged in the geological survey of this and other coal fields, from whom he received many acknowledgments for valuable information and assistance. The late Matthias Dunn (well known to the mining world), too, was a warm correspondent on mining matters in general. Mr. Johnson was also a great favourite of the late celebrated Mr. James Ryan (Count "Sulphur"), who worked many years in the cause of mining ventilation, some of his operations and experiments being carried out at the well-known "slaughter" pit near Dudley. Mr. Johnson's love for science gained him an acquaintance with the late Charles Darwin, and it is said the last letter written by the great professor was to Mr. Johnson. As already stated, Mr. Johnson's collection of minerals and fossils and mining records and curiosities are probably unequalled in the kingdom, and he was constantly being asked to lend from his collection for the various county and industrial exhibitions, and was always ready to do this. Several rare fossils already bear his name, and he has left a large number of specimens which must, when they come to be described, also bear it, for they owe their discovery to him. Mr. Johnson was the first person to introduce dynamite for industrial purposes into England. He conveyed half a ton of the destructive compound from Bangor by road to the Sand-

well sinking, where it was used with splendid effect in economising labour, in the penetration of the water-bearing rocks of the permain and upper coal measures. In private life, apart from business connections, his genial nature gained for him many warm friends, by whom his loss will be deeply felt.

GOLD IN THE PRETORIA DISTRICT.

On the morning of the 5th ult., in the presence of His Honour the President, the Chairman and members of the Volksraad, and a number of the townspeople of Pretoria, Mr. H. W. Struben, of the Willows, exhibited gold quartz of great richness taken from a reef or lode traversing the Witwatersrand (or range), in the Pretoria district. The gold, which was visible to the naked eye, permeated the quartz, and the result of some trials made by different people in the presence of the audience was extraordinary. A button of gold and silver smelted out of a piece of quartz by Mr. W. E. Dawson, who had also made some of the assays, was also shown, and the exhibition made a very favourable impression on all present, especially upon those who are best acquainted with gold mining.

In a speech made upon the mining question, Mr. Struben laid stress upon the duty of the Government to foster and protect the mining interests, and of the Volksraad by wise legislation not to crush but to assist in developing this new and important industry in the district. Mr. Struben said that complaints were heard from all classes of the poverty of the land, the loss of trade, and the scarcity of money, but he maintained that such a state of things need not exist. The Transvaal, with its streams of water, grazing, agricultural, and especially mining capabilities, was the richest portion of South Africa, and the district of Pretoria was, in his opinion, the richest part of the Transvaal. He considered it would rest with the Government, the Raad, and the people, as to whether these resources were developed or not—it would not be the fault of the soil. He trusted that the Volksraad would so legislate this session upon the important question of the revision of the Gold Laws that proprietary rights should be fully defined, acknowledged, and protected, and no excessive duties and royalties levied that would cripple the mining industry. The digger, who was the exploiter of the minerals, and consumer of the agricultural produce of the country, should be encouraged and protected as long as he proved himself a law-abiding citizen, and that the Government lands should be thrown open to him.

Mr. Struben further described the work done by his brother, Mr. F. Struben, in the Witwatersrand in prospecting, mining, &c., during the last 16 months. A great deal of hard labour had been undergone in tracing the reef for over 12 miles, and sinking shafts at various points on it, some as deep as 50 ft. Tunnels had been cut and the reef showed a larger body at the lowest depths than on the surface, being in some cases as much as 12½ ft. through. The angle ranges from 60° to 80° of dip. The reef showed the following results by assay:—

JOHNSON, MATTHEY, AND CO.		ozs.	dwt.	grs.
Dec. 12, 1884—Assay of gold only	.....	1	7	12
" " " " " "	.....	0	1	6
" " " " " "	.....	0	2	15
" " " " " "	.....	0	5	0

W. E. DAWSON.		ozs.	dwt.	grs.
May 7, 1885—Gold only	.....	1	15	22
" " " " " "	.....	0	13	8
" " " " " "	.....	0	14	8
June 4, 1885—Pure gold	.....	913	0	0
Silver	.....	362	12	10
Pure gold	.....	301	3	17
Silver	.....	123	19	9

Per ton of quartz of 2000 lbs., which samples were taken from various parts and depths on the reef.

Mr. Struben further stated that he intended working as many of the properties in his possession as he could manage at his own cost. That his machinery was ordered, and would be out shortly. He recommended those who could possibly manage it to open up their properties either individually or else to get up small workable companies of moderate capital to exploit their lands, so as to keep the money as much as possible in the country, and not to rush off with everything to speculators, who form gigantic, unworkable companies on foreign capital, which it had now been proved did not pay dividends, and brought the country into discredit, &c.

His Honour the President responded, thanking Mr. Struben for the exhibition of the wealth of the country, and for his statements, and assured him that he could depend upon the protection and assistance of the Government to those who endeavoured to develop the mining wealth of the State.

The Hon. Chairman of the Volksraad also said that it was, and would be, the wish and endeavour of the Volksraad to legislate in such a spirit that industries of such importance should not, as Mr. Struben seemed to fear, be crushed into the ground, but that they would be assisted and protected, and the rights of the proprietors of land as well as diggers would be so assured that they would have reason to be satisfied. Altogether the feeling engendered was most satisfactory, and it is to be hoped that further discoveries will soon be made in this district, which is traversed by quartz reefs in all directions, many proved to be bearing gold, and that the flagging spirits of all classes may revive with the improved prospects which we have every reason to hope will now dawn upon us. The district in which this rich discovery has been made is the most central and thickly populated in the Transvaal, being half-way between Pretoria and Potchefstroom, on the water-shed of the whole country, and at an altitude of between 6620 and over 7000 ft. It is a good agricultural district and very healthy, the roads are fairly good, and the mines are easy of approach, so that mining should be carried on here at a minimum cost.

COMMERCIAL FAILURES.

The number of failures in England and Wales gazetted during the week ending Saturday, July 11, was 75. The number in the corresponding week of last year was 78, showing a decrease of 3, being a net increase in 1885, to date, of 283.

The failures were distributed amongst the following trades, and, for comparison, we give the number in each in the corresponding weeks in 1883 and 1884:—

	1885.	1884.	1883.
Building trades.....	10	7	23
Chemists and druggists	2	2	4
Coal and mining trades	—	—	3
Corn, cattle, and seed trades	—	—	3
Drapery, silk, and woollen trades	11	9	18
Earthenware trades	—	1	4
Farmers	3	9	19
Furniture and upholstery trades	3	4	6
Grocery and provision trades	8	15	41
Hardware and metal trades	3	3	5
Iron and steel trades.....	1	1	8
Jewellery and fancy trades.....	5	1	9
Leather and coach trades	4	3	10
Merchants, brokers, and agents	3	4	24
Printing and stationery trades	3	3	6
Wine, spirit, and beer trades	10	7	21
Miscellaneous.....	9	9	18
Totals for England and Wales.	75	78	222
Scotland	17	26	18
Ireland	4	3	2

Totals for United Kingdom ... 96 107 242

The number of Bills of Sale published in England and Wales for the week ending July 11, was 268. The number in the corresponding week of last year was 218, showing an increase of 50, being a net increase in 1885, to date, of 413. The number published in Ireland for the same week was 20. The number in the corresponding week of last year was 11, showing an increase of 9, being a net decrease in 1885, to date, of 2.—*Kemp's Mercantile Gazette.*

SPANISH IRON ORE SHIPMENTS.

Messrs. T. and E. S. BELL, of Bilbao, favour us with the following statement of the amount of ore shipped from that port from January 1 to June 30:—

To Wales:—	Tons.	Tons.
Cardiff	199,383	
Newport	207,764	
Swansea	54,890	
Port Talbot	19,020	
Britonferry	2,826	
Porthcawl	2,929	
Llanelli	432 =	487,244
To Cleveland District:—		
Newcastle	131,733	
Sunderland	36,306	
West Hartlepool	8,478	
Middlesbrough and Stockton	151,099 =	327,616
To Lancashire:—		
Garston	1,959	
Workington	6,383	
Barrow	1,505 =	9,847
To Scotland:—		
Glasgow	156,043	
Ayr	9,392	
Grangemouth	12,325	
Boness	6,380 =	184,140
To other parts of England.....		193
Total to Great Britain		1,009,040
To France:—		
Dunkerque	98,460	
Bayonne	51,964	
La Rochelle.....	28,960	
Bordeaux.....	6,602	
Boulogne.....	32,953	
St. Nazaire	40,611	
Nantes	216	
Base Indre	166 =	259,932
To Belgium:—		
Antwerp	58,874	
Terneuzen	35,694 =	94,568
To Holland (for Germany):—		
Rotterdam	239,996	
Amsterdam	43,698 =	283,694
To America:—		
New York		2,827
		641,021
Total to Great Britain		1,009,040
Total sent from Bilbao		1,650,061
Total shipped last year.....		1,709,114
Difference (decrease)		59,053

THE EXAMINATION OF BOILERS FOR INSURANCE.—The report of Mr. P. Sampson, one of the Inspectors of the Board of Trade, with respect to the recent fatal boiler explosion at Coalville, in Leicestershire, has been printed. It explains that the age of the boiler in question was not known, but it was sold by auction in 1878 to a machinery dealer, who resold it in the same year to Mr. Archer, the proprietor of the Scotland Brickworks, at Coalville, for 90¢, including fittings. It was never inspected in such a manner as to enable anyone to ascertain its fitness for the pressure to which the safety-valve was loaded. In April, 1878, it was seen while at work by Mr. Wills, the local inspector of the English and Scottish Boiler Insurance Company (Limited), Manchester, and on the 27th of that month it was insured by his company at an annual premium of 14. 7s. 6d. The same inspector saw it while at work five times subsequently, and these were the sole inspections made, with the exception of those made by the stoker when cleaning the internal portion of the boiler. By the explosion the man who attended the boiler was killed on the spot. The Government Inspector, on his subsequent examination, found that the primary rip occurred where the plates were reduced in thickness by external corrosion to about 1-16th of an inch bore on an average, and in places it was down to a "knife edge." He accordingly comes to the conclusion that "the explosion occurred solely because the boiler was worn out at the defective part, and no longer fit to sustain with safety the ordinary working pressure." Mr. Sampson publishes the evidence he took with respect to the examination, condition, and absence of a thorough inspection of the boiler, and reprints in an appendix copies of the documents sent to Mr. Archer by the insurance company. The Inspector then came to the following conclusion:—"An examination of these (documents) by a person unacquainted with the decay of steam boilers (and most users come under that category), would not leave the impression that the company referred to regard annual thorough inspection of much importance; yet I have good reason for believing that they are most anxious to obtain them, and are only prevented from realising their desires by the keenness of the competition that exists between them and the other inspecting companies." The engineer surveyor-in-chief, in his observations on the report, says:—"This is another case in which no proper examination was made. The owner will, doubtless, console himself with the money from the insurance company which they undertook to pay for his premiums. They undertook the risk without examination, and, probably, had they insisted on examination, the risk would have been offered to some other company and accepted. So long as such risks pay companies, so long will there be users who go on without examination, and morally such users are as culpable as if they deliberately set a match to a barrel of gunpowder, steam being as destructive in its way as powder."

THE USE OF NATURAL GAS.—The town of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, affords an illustration of what may be accomplished in the use of natural gas. This gas is now conveyed to the town through four lines of 5½ in. pipe and one line of 8 in. pipe. A line of 10 in. pipe is also being laid. The pressure of the gas at the wells is from 150 lbs. to 230 lbs. to the square inch. As the wells are 18 miles distant on the one side and about 25 miles on the other, and as the consumption is variable, the pressure at the city cannot be given. Greater pressure might be obtained at the wells, but this would increase liability to leakage and bursting of pipes. For the prevention of such casualties, safety-valves are provided at the wells, permitting the escape of all superfluous gas. The enormous force of this gas may be appreciated from a comparison of, say, 200 lbs. pressure at the wells, with a 2 oz. pressure of common gas for ordinary lighting. The amount of natural gas now furnished for use in Pittsburgh is supposed to be something like 25,000,000 cubic feet per day; the 10 in. pipe now being laid will, it is estimated, increase the supply to 40,000,000 ft. The amount of manufactured gas used for lighting the same city probably falls below 3,000,000 ft. About 50 mills and factories of various kinds in Pittsburgh now use natural gas, and it is used for domestic purposes in 200 houses.

A fatal accident occurred on Monday to an eminent Scotch iron-founder—Mr. W. Pettigrew, of the firm of Shearer and Pettigrew, Wishaw. Deceased was standing in his own works, where a ponderous steam crane was being erected, when it fell over and crushed Mr. Pettigrew to the ground with a fatal result.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The attention of all sufferers is drawn to these well known remedies, for they possess conspicuous advantages as a safe and reliable aid in all those emergencies to which travellers, emigrants, and sailors are so especially liable. They have been largely patronised by wayfarers by land and sea, and, in fact, by all classes of the community, to their very great advantage. The pills are beyond all doubt one of the most effective remedies ever discovered for cases of obstinate constipation, confirmed indigestion and colic, complaints which are engendered by exposure and irregular feeding. The ointment will be found of the very greatest service in cases of piles, abscesses, erysipelas, and all kinds of local ulcerations.

THE COPPER TRADE.

Messrs. HARRINGTON, HORAN, and Co., Liverpool, write under date July 15:—Chili copper charters for second half of June were advised on 1st inst., as 1200 tons bars and ingots, of which 650 for England and 550 for Continent. Valparaiso was exchanged 25½d., but has since declined, and a cablegram dated 10th inst., quotes same 25¼d., with price of bars \$17.35. Since our last issue Chili bars have again declined in value, and business has been transacted down to 44½. 5s. spot and 44½. 15s. 6d. forward. Market however closes steadier at 2s. 6d. per ton above these rates. The business in furnace material comprises—At Liverpool, 250 tons Mexican ore (carbonate) at 8s. 6d., 225 tons Montana ore at 8s. 4½d., and 100 tons yellow Quebrada ore at 8s. per unit.—At Swansea 1000 tons Libiola ore at 8s., 1000 tons Cape ore at 8s. 3d., and 300 tons at 8s. 4½d. per unit.—Precipitate, 150 tons English at 9s. per unit, and 97 tons Mason's Spanish on private terms. Import of Chili copper during the past fortnight 1928 tons fine against 1506 tons fine same time last year. Delivery of Chili copper during the past fortnight 858 tons fine against 1618 tons fine same time last year. Import of other copper during the past fortnight 1011 tons fine against 1877 tons fine same time last year. Delivery of other copper during the past fortnight 1421 tons fine against 835 tons fine same time last year. The total imports of Chili and other copper into Liverpool and Swansea since the 1st of January have been 44,499 tons; deliveries during the same period, 41,115 tons fine; for same time last year the figures were 33,972 and 42,417 tons respectively. Arrivals here during the fortnight of West Coast S. A. produce—Aconagua from Coquimbo and Valparaiso, 212 tons bars; Tropique (s) from Valparaiso, &c., 35 tons ores, and 450 tons bars; Valparaiso (s) from Valparaiso, &c., 125 tons regular, 490 tons bars, and 100 tons ingots.—At Swansea: NW. Pacific from Lota, 630 tons bars. Stocks of copper (Chilian and Bolivian) in first and second hands, likely to be available, we estimate at—

	Ores.	Regulus.	Bars.	Ingots.	Barilla.
Liverpool.....	—	1,483	25,702	20	—
Swansea.....	—	2,156	4,159	—	—
Total.....	—	3,639	29,861	20	—

Representing about 31,519 tons fine copper, against 30,249 tons 30th ult.; against 24,219 tons July 15, 1884; against 26,355 tons July 14, 1883; against 24,498 tons June 4, 1882. Stock of copper contained in other foreign ore and Spanish precipitate, 4313 tons fine, against 5951 tons July 15, 1884. Stock of Chili bars and ingots in Havre, 650 tons fine, against 1735 tons July 15, 1884. Stock of Coro Coro Barilla in Havre, 596 tons fine, against 1245 tons July 15, 1884. Stock of other than Chili in Havre, 1245 tons fine, against 235 tons July 15, 1884. Stock of Chili copper afloat and chartered for to date, 82.2 tons fine, against 7948 tons July 15, 1884. Stock of foreign copper in London, chiefly Australian, 5416 tons fine, against 4200 tons July 15, 1884.

According to the Board of Trade Returns the total imports and exports into and from this country for the first six months of the following years were:—

	1883.	1884.	1885.
Copper in ores.....	2,214	11,752	10,026
Copper in regulus and precipitate.....	16,811	14,917	26,760
Bars, cakes, and ingots.....	17,297	19,538	21,130
In pyrites, estimated.....	8,656	7,834	8,943
Total.....	48,981	54,071	66,859
EXPORTS.....			
English copper—wrought and unwrought.....	16,438	26,932	18,879
Foreign copper—unwrought.....	5,719	5,848	3,603
Yellow metal.....	9,532	9,078	9,820
Total.....	31,709	35,858	32,309

Messrs. VIVIAN, BOND, and WATSON, Liverpool, write under date July 14:—The Chili charters for last half of June were advised 1st inst. as 1200 tons, consisting of 650 tons for England, and 550 tons for the Continent—all in bars and ingots. Price of bars was cable 15th inst. as \$17.30. Exchange 25½d. In Chili bars the market is almost without change, a fair amount of business having been done during the fortnight at 44½. 2s. 6d. to 44½. 15s. spot closing today at 44½. 5s. to 44½. 7s. 6d. spot, and 44½. 15s. to 45½. three months. In furnace material the following sales are reported:—Here: 100 tons yellow Quebrada ore at 8s., 225 tons Montana ore at 8s. 4½d., and 250 tons Mexican (carbonate) ore at 8s. 6d.—Swansea: 1000 tons Cape ore at 8s. 3d., 300 tons at 8s. 4½d., and 1000 tons Libiola ore at 8s.—Precipitates: 155 tons English at 9s., and 97 tons Mason's on private terms.—Arrivals from West Coast South America during the past fortnight:—Here: Aconagua, from Coquimbo, &c., 212 tons bars; Tropique from Tortorillo, &c., 450 tons bars; Valparaiso, from Valparaiso, &c., 490 tons bars, 100 tons ingots and 25 tons regular.—Swansea: Pacific from Lota, 630 tons bars. Equals about 1928 tons fine copper against 1217 tons, 30th June, 1885.—Arrivals of other than Chili: Liverpool, 579 tons against 1128 tons.—Swansea: 4.2 tons against 1469 tons = 1011 tons against 2595 tons 30th June, 1885, against 1877 tons 15th July 1884. Stocks of copper produce (Chilian and Bolivian) are as follows:—

	Bars.	Ingots.	Regulus.	Ores.
Liverpool.....	25,702	20	1,483	—
Swansea.....	4,159	—	2,156	—
Total.....	29,861	20	3,639	—

Equals about 31,519 tons of fine copper, against 30,249 tons, 30th June, 1885; against about 24,219 tons fine copper 15th July, 1884; against about 26,355 tons of fine copper 14th July, 1883; against about 24,498 tons of fine copper 14th July, 1882; against about 3,560 tons of fine copper 15th July, 1881. Other stocks of fine copper contained in copper, ores, and precipitates—in Liverpool, 2879 tons. Swansea, 1434 tons = 4313 tons, against 4733 tons 30th June 1885.—TIN—has advanced, a considerable business having been done during the past fortnight in Straits and Australian, the market closing firm at 97½ sharp cash. A sale is announced to take place at Rotterdam, 30th inst., when 21,800 albs Banca and 1400 albs Billiton will be offered. Peruvian: We quote nominally 86½ to 90½. English: Ingots 98½; bars (4 cwt.) 98½, and (2 cwt.) 100½ per ton.

J. A. JONES,

MINING ENGINEER,

GIJON (ASTURIAS), SPAIN.

Mines inspected and reported on. Assays and valuations effected. Has on hand offers of Mines of Copper, Calamine, Blende, Phosphate of Lime, Tin, Lead, Iron, Manganese, and Manganiferous Iron Ores.

MURRAY ASTON,

MINING AGENT,

CHRISTCHURCH, CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND.

Mines and other properties in any part of Australasia inspected, Reports by Government Geologists procured where required. Terms very moderate, and expense of sending Engineer from England avoided.

ADDRESS CABLEGRAMS, "ASTON, CHRISTCHURCH."

H. R. LEWIS AND CO.,

MINING OFFICES,

BARTHOLOMEW HOUSE, BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.;

AND

157, ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW,

supply accurate and reliable information on all Mines, Home and Foreign. Execute orders and advise the Purchase or Sale of Mining Securities. Undertake the Management of Mines or Mining Companies. INVESTORS WILL AVOID LOSS BY CONSULTING US BEFORE BUYING OR SELLING MINING SECURITIES.

ESTABLISHED 1871.

JAMESON and WOODS,

CONSULTING CIVIL AND MINING ENGINEERS and METALLURGISTS. Particular attention devoted to Mines and Smelting Works in Europe. A speciality made of Eastern Europe.

Mines and Works inspected upon and valued on moderate terms. Plant and Machinery estimated for and erected upon tenders. Independent Mining Reports made upon properties in any part of the world, and general advice and counsel given on request.

27, KING STREET, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

Registered Telegraphic and Cable Address: KOVITCH, London.

ALFRED H. KNIGHT, F.C.S.,

ANALYTICAL CHEMIST AND ASSAYER,

18, CHAPEL STREET, LIVERPOOL.

FEES MODERATE. LIST SENT ON APPLICATION.

BRENTON SYMONS, F.C.S., Assoc. Memb. Inst. C.E., Consulting Mining Engineer, 7, Jeffrey-square, London E.C., who is visiting professionally the Western States of America, OFFERS his SERVICES to inspect mineral properties, to survey the underground workings, or to investigate titles &c. For terms apply as above.

COPPER MINE, well situated by railway and shipping port in Norway, FOR SALE. Apply, Mr. DOP, Advocate, Christiania.

COMPANIA "EL CALLAO," GUAYANA, VENEZUELA. 32,200 SHARES.

Gold in bars produced in the month of May, 1885, and remitted to Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co., London—7032.4 ozs.

DIVIDEND distributed per share, 8 francs.

(Signed) P. ARISTEGUIETA, Vice-President.

(Signed) VICTOR J. GRILLET, Treasurer.

THE AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

Notice is hereby given, that the FORTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of this company will be HELD at the Guildhall Tavern, No. 32, Gresham-street, E.C., on MONDAY, the 27th instant, at One o'clock P.M. precisely, to receive the report, accounts, and balance-sheet for the past year; to elect directors in lieu of Frederick Collier, Esq., deceased, and Alderman Sir Charles Wetham, who retires in consequence of failing health; to fix the remuneration of the auditors for the past year; to elect auditors for the present year.

U. P. HARRIS, Secretary.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 13th to 27th instant, both days inclusive. No. 1, Coleman-street-buildings, Moorgate-street, London, E.C., 10th July, 1885.

BY ORDER OF LIQUIDATORS.

RE THE EAST HONY MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

MR. EDWARD SPRY will SELL, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Account House on the Mine, in One Lot, as a going concern, on WEDNESDAY, the 3rd day of August, 1885, at Twelve o'clock noon, the above VALUABLE MINE, together with the full equipment of MACHINERY and PLANT.

The Plant and Machinery are of the most approved and substantial character, and comprise, one 26 inch rotary engine with one 10 ton boiler, one engine house, one boiler house, one large wood carpenter's shop and bench, 1 shears, staves, and pulleys, 50 feet, one balance bob, one L bob, one 12 inch working, three pair of blocks, doorpiece, black Saxon, and buckets, one pair Weston's differential blocks. One powerful crab winch, 23 ft. winches, one lifting jack, two large treble and single blocks, 150 fathoms best 5 inch chain, 15 fathoms ladders, 8 fathoms 7 inch wood, rods with plates, a quantity of timber, smith's bellows, anvils, three vices, screw stocks, 3 cwt. smith's tools, new and old iron, steel, sheet lead, cross-cut saw, grindstone, three wheelbarrows, shovels, ropes, &c. The original lease or a copy can be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors, as below, and will be produced at the Auction.

Full particulars and conditions of sale may be had of Messrs. SNELL, SON, and GREENE, of No. 1, and 2, George-street, Mansion House, London, E.C.; and of Mr. EDWARD SPRY, Auctioneer, Liskeard, Cornwall.

BY ORDER OF THE LIQUIDATORS.

RE THE KIT HILL CONSOLS MINING COMPANY (LIMITED.)

MR. J. G. SPEAR will SELL, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Account House on the Mine, in One Lot, as a going concern, on THURSDAY, the 6th day of August, 1885, at Twelve o'clock noon, the above VALUABLE MINE, together with the full equipment of MACHINERY and PLANT. The Kit Hill Mine is open for extensive working.

The Plant and Machinery are of the most approved and substantial character, and comprise—One 30 inch cylinder rotary engine, with 2 Cornish boilers 10 and 8 tons respectively, 1 horizontal engine 16 inch, 1 13½ inch air compressor, 200 fathoms 2½ inch wrought iron air drawing machine, about 200 fathoms 2½ inch steel wire rope with pulleys and stands, 2 8 arm capstans, and about 200 fathoms 1½ inch rope, 2 shaft tackles with shear legs, &c., 13 fathoms 8 inch pumps, flanger poles, 50 fathoms 7 inch pumps, two plunger poles, main rods, skip rods, &c., stamp axle, stamps, leads, &c., shap and V bobs, 90 fathoms 2 inch flat rods, with pulleys and stands, and the tools in great variety, office furniture, &c., three Eclipse rock drills, three Cornish drills.

TUNNEL.—Two 16 inch cylinder Robey engines, two 13 inch air compressing engines, about 400 fathoms 3 inch wrought iron pipes, about 400 fathoms tramways, tram carriages, about 40 fathoms water pipes, &c.

The original lease, or a copy, can be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors as below, and will be produced at the Auction.

Full particulars and conditions of sale may be had of Messrs. SNELL, SON, and GREENE, of Nos. 1 and 2, George-street, Mansion House, London, E.C., and of Mr. J. G. SPEAR, Auctioneer, Calington, Cornwall.

CO. CORE.

THE BEREHAVEN MINING COMPANY.

IN LIQUIDATION.

MOST IMPORTANT and EXTENSIVE SALE of all the VALUABLE PLANT, MACHINERY, STORES, BOATS, COAL, TIMBER, FARM PRODUCE, HORSES, CATTLE, FARMING IMPLEMENTS, OFFICE FURNITURE, IRON SAFE, &c.

TO BE SOLD, BY AUCTION, on the Premises, on THURSDAY, the 5th of August, 1885, and following days, an immense quantity of

VALUABLE MACHINERY AND PLANT, including 15 pumping, crushing, winding, and other engines, varying in size from 26 to 60 in. and 10 ft. stroke; 20 boilers, about 250 fms. pitwork; two Blake's stone breakers, 20 by 9 inch, and spare jaws; two 30 ft. diameter and 4 ft. breast water wheels, with two stamps and axes of 16 heads each; two 20 ft. ditto; as a enormous number of pumps, from 8 to 14 in., strapping plates, &c.; also about 350 tons coal, 440 pieces Norway timber, 10 tons ash, 550 baltens and deals, about 1000 tons scrap iron, three boats; four stamps and axes, 12 heads each; crane 44 ft. long, powerful winch; 300 fms. 2½ in. chain, with two anchors and two bridle of 25 and 30 fms. each; iron wagons, set of Whitworth's dies, screwing gear, circular saw and bench, lifting screws, forge fittings, carpenter's tools, &c.; also horses, carts, harness, iron roller, root pulper and gear complete; grubber, winnowing, and threshing machines; 20 tons old hay, straw, manure, steam chest, cast iron bob, office furniture, &c.

The lands upon which the mines are known as the Allehies, situated about 10 miles from Castletown-Berehaven, a shipping port in Bantry Bay, and there is a good harbour and shipping stage at the Allehies.

Steamer leaves Bantry Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 9.30, for Castletown.

Catalogues will be ready one week preceding sale.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock each day.

Terms—Cash and 5 per cent. auction fees.

C. CUMMINS, of Foster-place, and T. BRUNNER, Esq., of Grafton-street, Dublin

(Official Liquidator of said company).

BENNETT and SON, Auctioneers, 6, Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.

In the High Court of Justice—Chancery Division.

ARMITAGE v. ARMITAGE.

A very VALUABLE FREEHOLD and MINERAL ESTATE, situate at Farley, in the parish of Leeds and county of York, and including the site of the celebrated Farley Ironworks, together with the Manor of Farley, and certain Minerals in the township of Gildersome.

MR. JOHN HEPPEL, the person appointed by Mr. Justice CHITTY, to whose Court the above Cause is attached, will SELL, BY AUCTION, in the Estate Sale Room of Messrs. Hepper and Sons, East-parade, Leeds, at three o'clock in the afternoon of THURSDAY, August 6th, 1885, subject to conditions to be then produced, and in One Lot, the following important

FREEHOLD AND MINERAL ESTATES:—

The FREEHOLD SITE (exclusive of minerals) of the Farley Ironworks, containing an area of about 60 A. 3 R. 34 P., subject to a lease to the Farley Iron Company (Limited), for a term of which 27 years remained unexpired on the 31st January, 1885.

About 18 A. 2 R. 33 P. of FREEHOLD LAND (exclusive of minerals) adjoining or near to the Farley Ironworks, together with 208 COTTAGES or other BUILDINGS, SHOPS, SCHOOLS, PARSONAGE, and Buildings thereon, with the outbuildings and appurtenances thereto belonging, and now held by the said Company for the term aforesaid at an annual rental of £300.

The VALUABLE MINERAL PROPERTY, comprising an area of upwards of 2000 acres now under lease to the Farley Iron Company (Limited), and including the Better Bed Coal and the Black Bed Coal; the Bed of Fire Clay lying immediately below the said Better Bed Coal, and also the Bed of Ironstone called the Black Bed Ironstone.

The REVERSIONARY INTEREST after the expiration or other sooner determination of the existing lease to the Farley Iron Company in certain of the minerals under the above 200 acres.

The FREEHOLD INTEREST in the unlet minerals, including the Beeston Bed Crow Coal, and Halifax Bens, lying under certain lands in Farley township, and also certain of the minerals under about 10 A. 1 R. 14 P. of land in the parish of Gildersome.

The MANOR or Lordship, or reputed Manor or Lordship, of Farley aforesaid with its rights, members, and appurtenances. UPTON and ARMITAGE, Solicitors, of 9, Bank-street, Leeds; Messrs. RIDDALL and SON, Solicitors, of 5, Gray's Inn-square, Lincoln's Inn, London; of Messrs. PATTERSON, SNOW, BLOKAM, and KINDER, Solicitors, 25, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London; Messrs. CHAS. ROGERS, SONS, and RUSSELL, Solicitors, of 7, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster; of Mr. T. FORSTER BROWN, Mining Engineer, of Guildhall Chambers, Cardiff; of the Auctioneer, East Parade, Leeds; or of Messrs. NORTON, ROSE, NORTON, and CO., Solicitors, 24, Coleman-street, London, E.C.

LARGE COLLIERY (WITH VALUABLE FREEHOLD

ROYALTIES) TO BE SOLD—A BARGAIN. This Colliery is situated about 8 miles from Athy and 10 miles from Carlow stations on the Great S. & W. Railway, Ireland. The PLANT is of the most modern and substantial description, comprising 42 in. cylinder Pumping Engine (12 ft. stroke); 20 in. cylinder Winding Engine; four boilers; Saw Mill, Workshop; Miners' Cottages, Manager's House; large Stock of Mining Stores and Appliances, &c., &c. The Freehold contains seams of high class Anthracite Coal which has been extensively used for melting and steam purposes. Also a 5 ft. seam of superior Fire-clay. A Tramway or light railway to pass through the district is in contemplation.

The working of the above has been discontinued owing to the death of two of the Principal Proprietors and to a subsequent accident to the Machinery, and in consequence will now be sold at a great sacrifice.

Or arrangements might be made by which the Colliery would be leased out on a royalty.

For further information and order to view the Property, apply to R. BRADY, Modubagh Colliery, Athy.

YEOLAND CONSOLS TIN MINE.

FOR SALE, any part of 100 SHARES in the YEOLAND CONSOLS TIN MINE, fully paid to £1 each. Price 15s. per share if bought at once.

Apply to MONRO and CO., 155, Upper Thames-street, London, E.C.

V. R.

SALE BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR.

Messrs. HORNE, SON, and EVERSFIELD, 17, Great George-street, S.W., will SELL, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, by order of the Secretary of State for War, on WEDNESDAY, 22nd July, 1885, at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely, the following SURPLUS and UNSERVICEABLE STORES, viz.:

STEAM BOILERS. MACHINERY. 30,000 PAIRS of NEW HORSE SHOES. OLD CAST and WROUGHT IRON SCRAP. LEAD and FOUNDER'S ASHES. JUNK. SERGE CUTTINGS, &c. WATERPROOF COVERS. OLD BUFF and BLACK ACCOUNT-BOOKS. PAPER CUTTINGS, &c. OLD ZINC. WHEELS. HORSE HAIR. OLD STEEL. OLD BLANKETS and RUGS. OLD LINEN. HARNESSES. LEATHER. WAGONS and CARTS. OLD WOOD STAVES. TIMBER, MAHOGANY, FIRE-WOOD, &c. WOOD CASES, &c. 500 CASES with METAL FITTINGS and LININGS.

The lots may be viewed at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, from Ten to One o'clock, and from Two to Five o'clock on the Friday, Monday, and Tuesday previous to and on the morning of the day of sale, and catalogues may be obtained at the War Office, Pall Mall; at the Ordnance Office, Tower; and at the Ordnance Office, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

MR. WILLIAM HOWARD WATSON, MINE FURSER, 11, HARRISON TERRACE, TRURO. Having had many years' experience in the working of mines in the chief mining districts of Cornwall, Mr. WATSON can supply investors with reliable information and sound advice. Mines managed on the Cost-book Principle faithfully applied.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ALMADA AND TIRITO CONSOLIDATED SILVER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

IN LIQUIDATION.

Notice is hereby given, that the CREDITORS of the above named company other than the Debenture-holders are required on or before the 1st September, 1885, to SEND their NAMES and ADDRESSES, and the particulars of their DEBTS or CLAIMS, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any) to Messrs. WILLIAM MARTINEAU and BURROUGHS DICKIE KESHAU, 47, Finsbury Circus, E.C., the Liquidators of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidators, are by their Solicitors to COME IN and PROVE their said DEBTS or CLAIMS at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

J. A. MORGAN, Solicitor to the above named Liquidators, 47, Finsbury Circus, E.C.

Dated the 16th July, 1885.

THE ALMADA AND TIRITO COMPANY (LIMITED).

Notice is hereby given, that the STATUTORY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be HELD at 47, Finsbury Circus, in the City of London, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd day of July, 1885, at Two o'clock P.M., precisely for the following purposes, viz.:

For receiving a report from the directors for passing resolutions sanctioning the Agreements for purchasing the mines, &c., for electing directors in lieu of the present directors, who retire from office at this meeting; for fixing the remuneration of the directors; for appointing auditors, and fixing their remuneration, and for transacting the general business of the Company.

By Order of the Board.

J. A. MORGAN, Secretary (pro tem).

Dated this 13th day of July, 1885.

GOLD EXTRACTING, WASHING, AND DELIVERING

MACHINE. Will wash 700 tons of gold-bearing earth daily. All the gold taken clean out by the machine, and bagged. The inventor is willing to engage with a gentleman, or with a company, who would be willing, after seeing a small machine working, to take out three patents for same, in the chief gold-producing countries of the world. He is willing also to take a machine to India, &c.

Address, Mr. W. H. DUNCAN, Engineer, Coalbrookdale, Shropshire, England.

IMPORTANT TO MINE OWNERS.

NEW PAIR of 11 inch cylinder VERTICAL ENGINES FOR SALE at a low price, suitable for Pumping, Hauling, or Winding.

WARSOP and HILL, NOTTINGHAM.

REDUCTION OFFICER WANTED for a Gold Mining Company in full work. Must be thoroughly qualified, with long practical experience. Address, stating previous engagements, "R. O.," care of Messrs. Charles Barker and Sons, 8, Birch-in-lane, E.C.

THE BORROWDALE PLUMBAGO MINES,

CUMBERLAND.

TO BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE TREATY, the unexpired term of 35 years in the above old and celebrated Mine.

For further particulars, apply to WM. HOPES HEELIS, Solicitor, Hawkshead, Ambleside; or to E. T. HARGRAVES, Esq., 18, Southwark-street, London Bridge, London, S.E.

STANDARD ORE CRUSHER—UNIVERSAL PULVERISER.

FOR SALE, the STANDARD ORE CRUSHER, 12 x 6, with Elastic Steel Connecting Rod.

Also, ONE 20 inch UNIVERSAL PULVERISER. Will reduce to powder any refractory material, wet or dry, Tin Ores, Quartz, &c. Apply,—

C. E. HALL, STANDARD IRONWORKS, SHEFFIELD.

WOLFRAM ORE.

PRODUCERS should SEND SAMPLES and OFFERS to—GEO. G. BLACKWELL, MINERAL MERCHANT, 26, CHAPEL STREET, LIVERPOOL.

TIN.

WANTED, CAPITALISTS (or a Gentleman) to introduce Capitalists) to DEVELOPE a valuable and extensive SETT where large deposits of Tin are known to exist. Apply to Captain BROWNING, Buckfastleigh, South Devon.

TO CAPITALISTS.

WANTED, about £1000 to EXTEND PRESENT BUSINESS, and to work a new and very valuable Patent for an article in great demand on Railways. A genuine and rare opportunity. None but principals or their solicitors treated with. Apply, "T. R. L. 99," Messrs. Deacon's, Lendenhall-street, E.C.

ANALYTICAL CHEMIST.

SITUATION WANTED as such in Laboratory or Works. Several Years' experience in Large Copper Mining Companies at home and abroad. First-class references. Address, "Chemist," W. PORTEOUS and Co., Glasgow.

AGENTS WANTED TO PUSH FIRST-CLASS MACHINERY OILS commanding a large and successful sale. Liberal commission.

Address, "Box 22," Post Office, Liverpool.

BELL'S ASBESTOS.

BELL'S PATENT ASBESTOS BLOCK PACKING for High-Pressure Engines.
The following testimonials refer to this Packing:—

Mona Lodge, Amlwich, Anglesey,
2nd August, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in answering your note. Bad times in mining have compelled me to try all kinds of expedients in order to effect saving; some have succeeded and some have failed, but my underground manager, Capt. Hughes, has just said to me by the telephone—"The Asbestos Packing is the best thing ever brought here."
It saves money and trouble, but like my gas purifying oxide it lasts so long that you must not expect another order from me for twelve months at least.

Yours truly,
T. F. EVANS,
Late H.M. Inspector of Metalliferous Mines.
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway—Steamship Department,
Grimby, April 10th, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in stating that after a trial of over nine months, and comparing it with other packings, I can confidently recommend your Asbestos Packing. It is especially valuable when high-pressures are employed, as in cases where other packings have perished, owing to high temperatures, your packing has invariably stood well. I have also used it with complete success when a gland has heated with other packings, and also in cases of badly scored piston rods. I consider the results I have obtained by its use for our marine engines to have been in every way highly satisfactory.

Yours truly,
G. H. CLARKE, Sup. Engineer.
Department of the Director of Navy Contracts,
Admiralty, Whitehall, 20th June, 1884.

SIR,—I have to inform you that your tender has been accepted for Bell's Rolled Cloth Asbestos Packing to sample submitted:—Elastic core ... Round.
To Mr. John Bell.
JOHN COLLETT, Director of Navy Contracts.

BELL'S ASBESTOS BOILER PRESERVATIVE.—This useful mixture by absorbing the free oxygen that is in the water entirely checks pitting and corrosion. It also disintegrates incrustation so immediately as to prevent its adhering to the plates. Not only is a great economy of fuel effected by keeping boilers clean, but the risk of having the plates burned is thereby obviated. It has been computed that $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick of incrustation causes a waste of 15 per cent. of coal: $\frac{1}{4}$ in., 60 per cent.; $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 150 per cent.

Thus the Preservative avoids the great risks which are inseparable from scaled plates, lengthens the life of a boiler, and covers its own cost a hundredfold by economy of fuel.

It is entirely harmless, and has no injurious action on metals. It can be put into the feed tank or boiler, as may be most convenient.

Sold in drums and casks bearing the Trade Mark, without which none is genuine.

BELL'S ASBESTOS YARN and SOAPSTONE PACKING for Locomotives and all Stationary Engines running at very high speed with intense friction.

Sandwell Park Colliery, Smethwick, 1st February, 1884.

To Bell's Asbestos Works.
DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in stating that I have used your Asbestos Packing for the last 13 months for our large winding engines which are running night and day, and also for the fan, pumping, and hauling engines at the above Colliery, and during that period we have not used more than one-third the Packing we had formerly; and this I attribute to your Packing on account of its great durability and general excellence of quality.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
THOMAS WINTER, Colliery Engineer.



BELL'S ASBESTOS.

The goods of this house are of the highest quality only, and no attempt is made to compete with other manufacturers by the supply of inferior materials at low prices. All "home" orders should be sent direct to the undermentioned depots and not through Agents or Factors.

BELL'S ASBESTOS BOILER AND PIPE COVERING COMPOSITION, for coating every class of steam pipes and boilers, non-combustible and easily applied when steam is up; adheres to metals and preserves them from rust; prevents the unequal expansion and contraction of boilers exposed to weather; covers 50 per cent. more surface than any other coating, and is absolutely indestructible. It can be stripped off after many years' use, mixed up with 20 per cent. of fresh, and applied again. The composition is supplied dry, and is only to be mixed with water to the consistency required for use.

A Horizontal Boiler, 17 ft. 6 in. long, 15-H.P., gave the following results:—

Temperature on Plates - - - 186 deg.

Covering - - - 94 deg.

One ton of coal was saved per week, and although the fire was raked out every evening, 20 lbs. of steam were found in the boiler next morning.

The following Testimonials refer to this Covering:—

DEAR SIR,—It may interest you to know that we save exactly 40 per cent. in fuel through using your covering.
Yours truly,
W. SANTO CRIMP, C.E., F.G.S.

The Tamar and Kit Hill Granite Company (Limited),
Gunnislake, Tavistock, 8th April, 1884.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in stating that the Asbestos covering applied by you to the boiler of our travelling crane at Kit Hill has yielded most remarkable results. Since it has been in use we have saved fully half our coals, and have effected a great saving in the time it takes to get up steam, which is often a matter of great importance to us. I should add that the crane runs on high ganties, and is fully exposed to all weather. I have formed the highest opinion of your Asbestos as used for this purpose, and as you are aware, have had another boiler similarly covered, though it has not since been used. I can most strongly recommend the material.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
W. J. CHALK, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E., Engineer and Manager.

BELL'S ASBESTOS and INDIA-RUBBER WOVEN TAPE and SHEETING for making every class of Steam and Water Joints. It can be bent to the form required without puckering, and is especially useful in making joints of manhole and mudhole doors. It is kept in stock in rolls of 100 ft. from $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 3 in. wide, and any thickness from $\frac{1}{16}$ in. upwards. Manhole cover, can be lifted many times before the renewal of the jointing material is necessary. The same material is made up into sheets about 40 in. square, and each sheet bears the Trade Mark, without which none is genuine. It is very necessary to guard against imitations of this useful material, and to secure themselves against being supplied with these inferior articles at my price, users are recommended to see that every 10 ft. length of the Asbestos Tape purchased by them bears the Trade Mark.

BELL'S SPECIAL LONDON-MADE ASBESTOS MILLBOARD for Dry Steam Joints, made of the best Asbestos fibre, is well-known for its toughness and purity, and is absolutely free from the injurious ingredients frequently used to attain an appearance of finish, regardless of the real utility of the material. Made in sheets measuring about 40 in. square, from 1-64th in. to 1 in., and $\frac{1}{2}$ millimetre to 25 millimetres thick. Each sheet bears the Trade Mark.
The following copy of acceptance of tender refers to above:—

Department of the Director of Navy Contracts,
Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W., 17th May, 1884.

SIR,—I have to inform you that your tender for Asbestos Millboard has been accepted.—Mr. John Bell.
JOHN COLLETT, Director of Navy Contracts.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EXPANSION SHEETING (PATENT).—This Sheeting is another combination of Asbestos with India-rubber, giving to the steam user the special advantages of both materials. The India-rubber Washer is protected from the action of heat and grease by an outer coating of vulcanized Asbestos Cloth, thus producing an excellent joint where expansion and contraction render other materials unserviceable. This material is admirably suited to steam pipe joints and every class of valve. Valves made of this material are very durable, as they are not subject to injury by oil.

ASBESTOLINE

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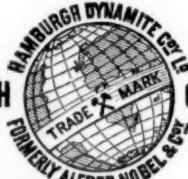
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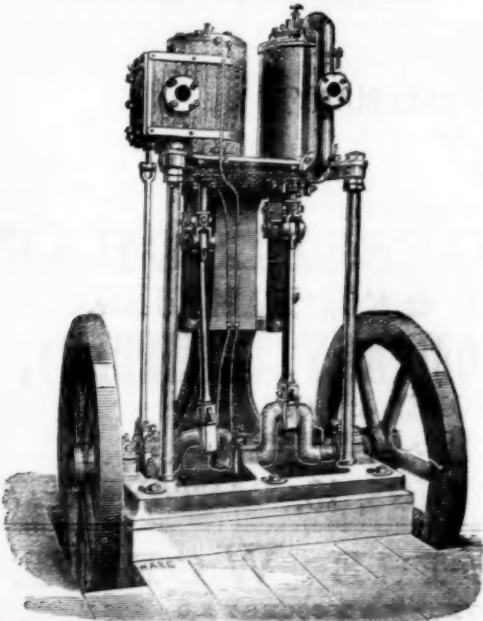
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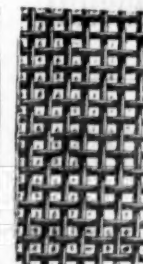
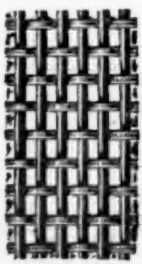
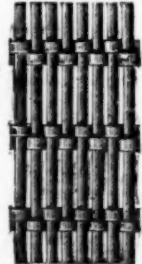
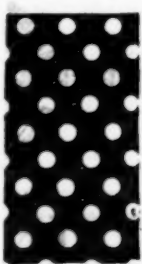
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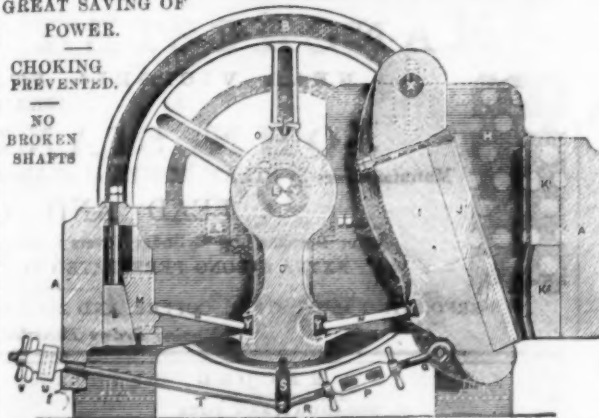
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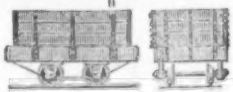
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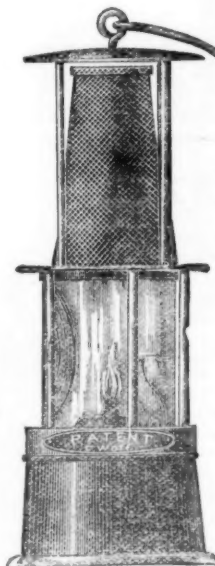
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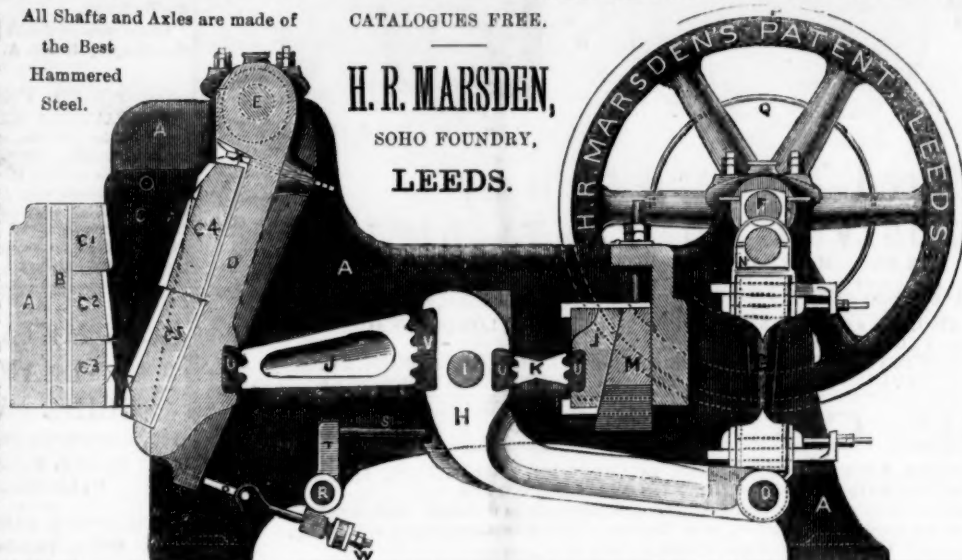
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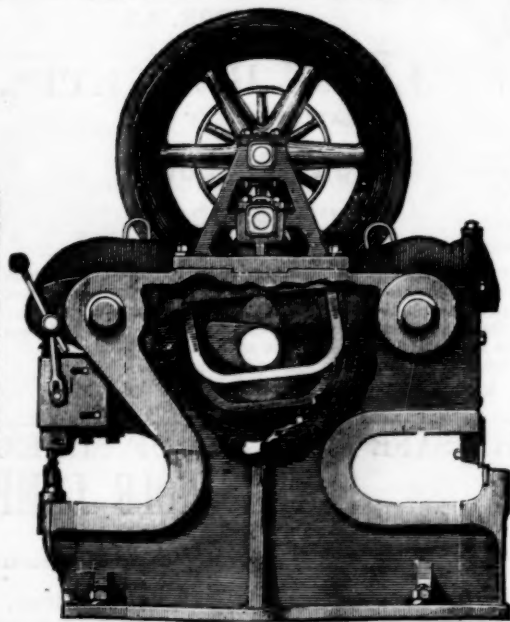
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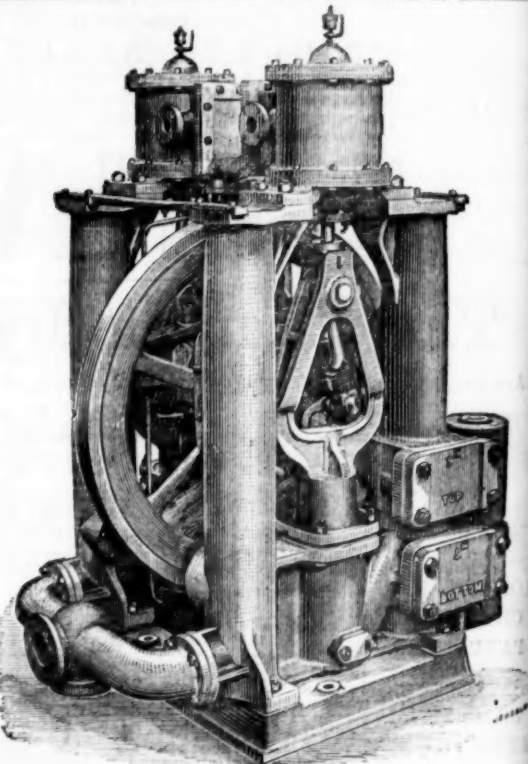
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